

Orange Region

Orange County

Orange County One-Stop Center, Garden Grove



Sometimes lack of skills or finding the right industry isn't the biggest challenge in the job hunt. In Danielle Grigsby's case, it was staying positive after each job rejection. "It takes a toll, getting told 'no' all the time," said Danielle. "Keeping my spirits up was challenging."

Luckily, Danielle had a strong support system, thanks in part to the Orange County One-Stop Center in Garden Grove and the Veterans Educational Assistance Program.

Danielle already had an impressive résumé. She had served eight years Active Guard Reserve in the U.S. Army and is currently in her fourth year in the National Guard. She also has a master's degree in Health Administration.

What Danielle was missing was experience in the health care industry – and the chance to prove herself. With help from an EDD employment program specialist and a Disabled Veteran Outreach Program specialist at the Orange County One-Stop Center, Danielle sharpened her résumé, improved her interviewing skills and made the right job connections.

She's now working full-time as a client service specialist with United Healthcare. Danielle has found a new and thrilling challenge in balancing her civilian career and her role in the National Guard. It's a tough transition at times, but one Danielle welcomes. "Last year this time, I was saying, 'I'm so far behind in my life'," said Danielle. "But I'm where I want to be. Everything worked out the way it was supposed to."

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Orange County One-Stop Center (Garden Grove)**



United States Navy veteran LaChana Shelton wasn't going to let unemployment stop her from getting a job and successfully transitioning back into civilian life after serving her country. The highly motivated mother used her inner strength and assistance of the Orange County One Stop Center in Garden Grove to eventually land a job with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Service.

"Honestly, I can say that Employment Development Department staff got me where I needed to be in my current employment field," said Shelton. "They gave me vital information and courses, as well as providing me with training necessary to becoming an Alcohol Drug Counselor. I also completed Resume and Veteran Assistance workshop classes that helped me pursue a new career – and kept me determined and highly motivated."

Shelton credits EDD employees at the Orange County One-Stop Center (Garden Grove) for helping her with her resume, in exploring different job markets, and preparing her for the search.

"This client was supported by a team of partners with the common goal of this veteran obtaining employment," said EDD caseworker Monica Arredondo.

The team effort paid off – she landed a job with the America's Job Center of California (AJCC) in Oxnard, where she worked while going to school at night for Substance Abuse Counseling and interning at a Detox Center in Santa Ana. She then left the AJCC job for her current position at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Service.

"I stayed proactive during that time," said Shelton who also earned a Master's Degree in Psychology. In addition to her new job, she's currently serving in the US Naval Reserves, and volunteers with the Susan G. Komen of Orange County for Breast Cancer Awareness.