

### **Success Spotlight: Mary Mapp-Moody**

Mary Mapp-Moody is a U.S. Army veteran who sought out the Jobs for Veterans State Grants (JVSG) program after being out of the workforce for several years.

Mary spent three years in the military and, afterward, toured Europe as a singer entertaining troops on USO tours. She also was a flight attendant for United Airlines and even earned two college degrees.

But she ultimately sought the assistance of a Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program (DVOP) specialist to help her return to the workforce. The JVSG program is administered by the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, with WorkOne centers throughout the state assisting Hoosier veterans with their transition from the service to civilian life.

Mapp-Moody since December 2020 has worked at the WorkOne office in Indianapolis as a customer service representative and recently received a promotion, with the help of DVOP Specialist Josh McDonald, who also works at the location.

"I do believe that the JVSG program does work; I'm a testament that it does," Mary said. "Being of a certain age and being out of the workforce for so long, I was kind of nervous that no one would want to hire me."

McDonald assists veterans like Mary by understanding their barriers, helping to overcome them, and getting them on a path to meaningful employment.

"I want to give them the best help and the most successful outcomes as possible," he said. "I'm there to be a coach and a mentor."

Mary can attest to that, saying, "Joshua held my hand and pushed me and guided me and did everything he could possibly do to make sure I got this job."