



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Syracuse VA Medical Center
800 Irving Avenue, Syracuse, NY 13210

VA Salutes Defense Finance & Accounting Service (DFAS) Rome for its Support of Veterans with Disabilities

In 2007, the Defense Finance & Accounting Service (DFAS) formed a partnership with the Donald J. Mitchell Rome VA Outpatient Clinic, with a primary goal of providing career-oriented jobs for Veterans with Disabilities.

One year later, DFAS, working with the VA Clinic's Vocational Rehabilitation Program, hired eight qualified Veterans who had the skills to fill needed job vacancies. And today in 2010, these Veterans continue to thrive at their jobs.

VA will express its appreciation to DFAS in a special presentation ceremony on Monday, May 3, 2010, 1:30pm at the Coliseum, 325 Brooks Road, inside Rome's Griffiss Business & Technology Park.

Says James Cody, Director, Syracuse VA Medical Center & /Rome VA Clinic, "VA thanks DFAS for supporting eight qualified Veterans. DFAS based their decisions on the strengths and skills they had to offer, rather than their disabilities. Thank you for making a difference in their lives."

Aaron Gillison, Divisional Director, DFAS/Rome stated, "Our Veterans who have served the United States of America know and understand the customers that we at DFAS support. As a Colonel, U.S. Army (Retired), it's a great opportunity to extend employment opportunities to those who have worn the uniform to defend this great nation and allow them to continue to utilize their experience here at DFAS-Rome."

Ed Abounader, President, American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Local 201, agrees. "Those who have served our country remain a priority in the expansion hiring at

DFAS/Rome. Their dedication to the mission and the exceptional job skills they possess, have helped to make DFAS/Rome a respected partner in service to our nation's military.”

MEDIA NOTE: Mr. Gillison, Mr. Abounader, and Bill Woods, Manager, VA Vocational Rehabilitation Program will be available for interviews.

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