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[City to help more unemployed vets](#)

A new career center in the Flatiron District aimed at veterans and funded by Robin Hood Foundation could help 50% more former soldiers find civilian jobs.

By Ken M. Christensen
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A new career center at 60 Madison Ave. will staff veterans and also train its non-veteran employees to better meet veterans' specific needs

With the opening of the new Workforce1 Veterans Career Center in Manhattan, announced on Tuesday, the city expects to help 50% more out-of-work veterans find jobs each year.

The new career center aims to ease veterans' transition to civilian life by training and locating employment opportunities for the city's estimated 8,600 unemployed veterans. Last year, Workforce1 worked with 3,700 veterans and found jobs for more than 800 of them. That yearly rate could increase to 1,250 with the new career center, officials said in a statement. In addition, Workforce1 has pledged to prioritize veterans at its existing 15 career centers throughout the city.

"Veterans are returning to challenging economical hurdles as they seek to begin or to renew their 'battle rhythm' as they rejoin the civilian workforce," Terrance Holliday, commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Veterans' Affairs, said in a statement. "The Workforce1 model will compliment these candidates, and help make a match to employers in New York City."

Workforce1, a service of the New York City Department of Small Business Services, will work with employers who make public commitments to hiring veterans. It will also offer workshops and resources to help veterans hone skills like resume and interview preparation. The new location, at 60 Madison Ave., between East 26th and East 27th streets, will staff veterans and also

train its non-veteran employees to better meet veterans' specific needs.

The new location is fully funded by the poverty-fighting Robin Hood Foundation, which donated \$600,000 via the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City. The money is expected to last through late spring 2013, when the foundation will consider a one-year renewal of the program, depending on its success.

New York has an estimated 104,000 veterans under the age of 65, according to the city. The number of veterans in the city is expected to rise with eventual troop draw-downs in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"I would say that over the past two or three years we've seen a tangible uptick in the number of veterans using Robin Hood's programs," said Eric Weingartner, a managing director at Robin Hood. "Now I wouldn't be surprised to see an uptick in [job] placement."