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Army Reserve takes aim at Cleveland Clinic jobs

By M.R. Kropko Associated Press

POSTED: 08:50 a.m. EST, Sep 25, 2008

CLEVELAND: A national effort by the Army Reserve to link soldiers with employers willing to give them hiring preference added the Cleveland Clinic to its growing list of partners today.

The collaboration will help the Army Reserve recruit and train people interested in health care careers, said Col. Dianna Clevlen.

"We're trying to work with employers who are interested in hiring Army Reserve soldiers and ensuring that these aren't simply job placements but career placements," she said Wednesday.

Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz established the Army Reserve's Employer Partnership Initiative in April, and it's considered a pilot program that may be tried by other military reserve branches.

Soldiers will be training to the fill jobs in respiratory therapy, radiology and physical therapy. The Army Reserve will advise soldiers about career opportunities at the Cleveland Clinic, an academic medical center that is one of the largest hospitals in the nation.

A similar agreement was reached a few months ago with Inova Health System, a health care system based in northern Virginia. In all, 18 deals with various organizations and businesses have been signed. The Cleveland Clinic deal is the first in Ohio.

"Cleveland Clinic is thrilled to have the opportunity to expand our work force to include the men and women who have made the commitment to service through the U.S. Army Reserve," said Joseph Paternchak, Cleveland Clinic's chief human resource officer.

Under the agreement, Cleveland Clinic guarantees a job interview for all qualified participating soldiers within 30 days after they complete military training specializing in a specific occupation. It will give priority placement consideration to qualified Army Reserve soldiers.



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