

# MILITARY KIDS GET BIG BOOST FROM FORTUNE 500 COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS PROCESS

**92% Report Higher Grades, 100% Say They're Now Determined to Get a College Degree**

A new multi-phase process that gives teenagers the real-world skills they need to thrive in college and the world of work was recently completed at the Nellis Air Force Base Youth Center in Las Vegas. "We wanted to do something really special, something with lasting impact", said Youth Center Director, Carol Padilla, "and we just couldn't be happier."

Designed by a collection of university professors and Fortune 500 trainers, the program selected by Ms. Padilla and her colleagues, *The Great Expectations Program for High-Potential Teenagers*, is the brainchild of best-selling leadership author, Dr. Franklin C. Ashby. "Great Expectations fills a vital gap in secondary school curriculums", says Dr. Ashby, "by bringing proper balance to the acquiring of critical *knowledge*, and the acquiring of critical *skills* and *attitudes*."

Based on leading-edge Fortune 500 methodology, the Great Expectations process builds and reinforces the 10 skills research shows top colleges and companies want most today in new students and employees. "It really is the perfect complement to a high school diploma" says Professor Eric Killian from the University of Nevada, a Great Expectations Advisory Board member. "And something we believe every American teenager should be getting as a standard part of their secondary education."

In addition to the training, students in the Nellis AFB class participated in a comprehensive *Return-on-Investment (ROI)* study that tracked their progress over the 24-sessions of the Great Expectations core program. "The growth in self-confidence and personal aspirations alone was just astounding", said Carol Padilla. "Our kids beat the industry averages for adults in just about every major category."

The study also found that a remarkable 92% of graduates reported getting better grades as a direct

result of the training, and 100% said they now looked forward to going to college. "I'd estimate that about 60% of military kids typically go off to college", said Ms. Padilla, "so a jump to a perfect 100% really got our attention. It's pretty amazing."

A 60-page report describing the results generated by the Nellis class was submitted by Professor Killian to Air Force officials in Nevada and Washington DC in early September. "The findings pretty much speak for themselves", said Mark Mula, the former vice president of Leader Capability and Learning at Pfizer Corporation and another Great Expectations Advisory Board member. "As a graduate of the US Naval Academy and a former submarine officer I know firsthand the tremendous benefit military families get from this kind of support."

Dr. Ashby and his colleagues view every young person between the ages of 13 and 19 as a *high-potential teen*, regardless of his or her history or school performance. "I've seen too many miracles over the years to believe otherwise", he says. "Every young person has a huge reservoir of talent and potential just waiting to be developed. The key is unlocking it all early in life while habits are still developing, important life and career decisions have yet to be made, and enough time is available to do the job properly."

"There's really no better way to support our troops than by giving their kids the skills they need to be successful", said Ms. Padilla. "And we believe Great Expectations provides us with the perfect tool."

Details about the Great Expectations process can be found at [www.greatexpectationsforteens.com](http://www.greatexpectationsforteens.com), or by contacting Professor Killian at (702) 257-5542.