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Attention Newsroom—News Release

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Small Business Entrepreneurial Training for Veterans

(MADISON) –The Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs (WDVA) and the University of Wisconsin-Extension Small Business Development Center (SBDC) are offering several entrepreneurial business training sessions for veterans this summer in Milwaukee.

Through the Fast Trac *NewVenture* program, each student will develop a feasibility plan, analyzing the strengths and weakness of their business idea. They will exchange ideas and learn strategies with other aspiring entrepreneurs and lay the groundwork for future business relationships within the Wisconsin business community.

The nine-module entrepreneurial training will be held on the UW-Milwaukee Campus in Room 195 of the Chemistry Building, located at 3210 N. Cramer Avenue. Classes will meet on Thursdays, 6-9 p.m. from June 10 through August 5. A second session will run from August 12 through October 7, 2004.

Partial funding is available through the Veterans Corporation; the net cost per veteran or management team is \$250. Veterans who successfully complete the program will receive a gift card from the Veterans Corporation valued at \$675 for computer hardware or services from Gateway Computers.

Program graduates may continue training through the Entrepreneurial Training Program (ETP) offered through the UW-Milwaukee Small Business Development Center. The ETP takes a student through the development of a business plan and prepares the new business to apply for funding from a lending institution.

Veterans may register online with the Veterans Corporation, www.veteranscorp.org/training; click on *Register for NewVenture*. For more information, contact: Joe Bertalan, WDVA, at 608.267.7329 or 800.947.8387, or joe.bertalan@dva.state.wi.us; or, Mike Sitton, SBDC Instructor, at 608.393.5931, or mike.sitton@us.army.mil.

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