**History of the Veterans Upward Bound Program**

The Veterans Upward Bound program (VUB) is derived from the US Department of Education Federal TRiO programs, which were created through the Higher Education Act of 1965.  These programs were implemented to assist nation’s economically disadvantaged Population with access to higher education. Other TRiO programs are Educational Talent Search, High School Upward Bound, Student Support Services, Educational Opportunity Center, and McNair Scholars.  These Participants include students from as early as middle school up to the graduate school level.

VUB was created in 1972 as a priority project to meet the academic needs of veterans returning from the Vietnam War.  VUB was designed to provide an atmosphere on the nation’s college campuses that was conducive to these vets, thereby easing their transition back into civilian society. By the end of 1973, there were 68 VUB projects nationwide.  Currently, 48 projects are in operation providing program services to nearly 6,000 veterans every year from every war era, and peacetime era since the early 1950’s (Korea, Viet Nam, Persian Gulf, OIF-OEF, etc).

The VUB program provides veteran participants a unique pre-collegiate experience that is designed to remove apprehensions that many veterans, as non-traditional students, may have about entering post secondary education.  The program also provides veterans who do not a high school diploma, an opportunity to prepare for the General Educational Development test (GED).  All veteran participants receive refresher training through a core curriculum of subjects that prepare them for college level course material.  Participants are also informed of various support services on many college campuses.  Upon successful completion of the VUB program, the veteran participants are not only familiar with services and resources available to them as students but more importantly they possess a renewed confidence in their academic abilities.