**Veterans Upward Bound**

Jessica Hubble

Jessica is originally from Clarksville, TN but was raised in Fort Pierce, FL. She graduated from Westwood High School in 1993 where she participated in sports such as soccer and the swim team.

After graduating from high school she was uncertain about which career to pursue so she enlisted in the United States Navy. Her love for the ocean was one of the determining factors that led Jessica to the Navy where she served for four years. While in the Navy, Jessica got married and had three children, and is currently expecting. After the Navy, Jessica was unsure of where her civilian life would lead her so she began to ask questions and explore career options for a brighter future.

Jessica began as a Veteran Upward Bound (VUB) participant in August 2014. She is currently enrolled at Butler Community College, where she experienced a successful first semester.

Jessica believes VUB has assisted her in many ways that will not only enhance but ensure academic success. After completing general education requirements at Butler Community College, Jessica plans to attend Newman University to pursue a bachelor’s degree in business management.

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**Student Support Services**

Joanna Rodriguez

Joanna Rodriguez is a senior at Wichita State who will graduate in May 2015 with a bachelor’s degree in biology and a minor in chemistry. She is originally from Garden City, KS, and moved to Wichita to complete her undergraduate studies.

Joanna grew up in poverty and college never seemed attainable. Her parents came to Kansas from Mexico in search of a better life for their children. She is extremely grateful for all their sacrifices to provide her with opportunities they did not have.

A fellow student told Joanna that Student Support Services (SSS) provides free tutoring. Joanna began tutoring in biology and saw a major improvement in her study skills and grades. Since then, she utilized the tutoring services for her most challenging classes and attributes her success to the help she received from the amazing SSS tutors. She also found a great support system in her SSS advisor.

Joanna was accepted to the University of Missouri-Kansas City where she will begin her studies as a dental student. Her dreams for the future include having her own dental practice and serving in a rural area. She plans to take several mission trips throughout her career to third world countries to provide basic dental care to those who do not have access.

Her advice to freshman SSS students is to get involved early and do not be afraid to ask for help. She believes SSS is a great way to meet amazing people who want to see students succeed.