

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

A Year of Accomplishments



A Premier Organization For Transitioning Service Members Interested  
In Careers In Medtech.

# Welcome

**MedTechVets** mission was strengthened in 2020 at a time when our transition services were needed the most as COVID-19 drastically impacted lives, industries, and global economies. Concurrently, many of our sponsors were responsible for creating the medical supplies and vaccines necessary for patients' health during the pandemic.

In response, we re-branded from MVPvets to MedTechVets; developed a new curriculum and created a free, virtual 6-week long mentorship and training program to support Veterans interested in transitioning to medical device, biotech, and life science companies. The Academy allowed us to engage our community of veterans, mentors, and sponsors in new ways across the nation. We are proud to share with you our annual report highlighting accomplishments and stories throughout the year.

Thank you to our corporate sponsors and mentors who help us achieve our mission.



With gratitude,  
**Derek Herrera**  
President & Chairman



and  
**Victoria Hathaway**  
Director of Operations



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# 01. Our Impetus

A silhouette of a soldier in a dark uniform and campaign hat, saluting with his right hand. He is standing in front of a large American flag, with the red and white stripes visible behind him. The scene is dimly lit, with the soldier's figure appearing as a dark shape against the lighter background of the flag.

## MISSION

MedTechVets is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that assists and prepares transitioning service members and military veterans for meaningful employment in medical device and life science companies.

## HISTORY

MedTechVets started in 2012 on the east coast as a collaborative venture between Abiomed and AdvaMed. Since its designation as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit in 2014, MedTechVets has broadened its embrace of veterans across the nation, expanded its mentor base, and primarily served medical technology and life science companies.



## 02. Academy 2020 Statistics

**87.5%** employed  
within **6 months**  
of graduation

**4** Employed  
within **MedTech**

**100%** would  
recommend the  
Academy to a friend

**50%** from backgrounds  
underrepresented in  
MedTech

**100%** attended the  
MedTech Conference

**8** Fellows  
**8** Mentors  
**8** Instructors



# ACADEMY 2020



**BOBBY**  
PROGRAM MANAGER  
**Athenahealth**

"I am so incredibly grateful for the resources, encouragement, time, and effort that you invested into me and this transition. The Academy absolutely set me on the right footing with the skills, knowledge, and mindset to conduct this search. I absolutely will have that front of mind as I work to pay these experiences."



**CHRIS**  
TECHNICAL SERVICE ENGINEER  
**Abbott Laboratories**

"Before I started the Academy, my public speaking skills were not the best. But as time went on, my confidence grew tremendously and made interviews feel like a walk in the park. I strongly feel like I owe it to you, Derek, and the other MedTechVets mentors that I've interacted with that helped me land this."

# 03. MEDTECH Conference



Powered by  AdvaMed

MedTechVets launched its first-ever virtual training and career mentorship program for eight transitioning service members and military veterans interested in the medical device field. After completing the 6 week-long Academy, our graduating class of fellows were sponsored to attend The MedTech Conference by our partner, Advamed.

The MedTech Conference is an annual summit that provides access to the world's top medtech executives and innovators, educational programming, and business development opportunities. We chatted with three of our graduates to get an idea of how they experienced the conference, what their takeaways were, and how The Academy helped prepare them.





## DEVIN OWENS

Associate Clinical Account Specialist  
Biosense Webster

**His background:** Devin Owens started his military career after he went to a military high school, where he connected with an instructor who was a Naval pilot. He then went on to The Naval Academy where he ran track and studied physical science. Upon graduation, he attended flight school, but transitioned out of the Navy shortly after he sustained a medical condition. He told MedTechVets that when his roommate got a job at Johnson and Johnson, this piqued his interest in medical technology and its ability to improve people's way of life. As far as his long term goals, Devin is interested in understanding just how medical devices are being used in the operating room. He hopes to start his career as a Sales Representative for a medical device company and eventually manage his own team. From there, he wants to experience the product side and contribute to product engineering.

**“How do you think the MedTechVets Academy helped you put your best foot forward during The MedTech Conference?”**

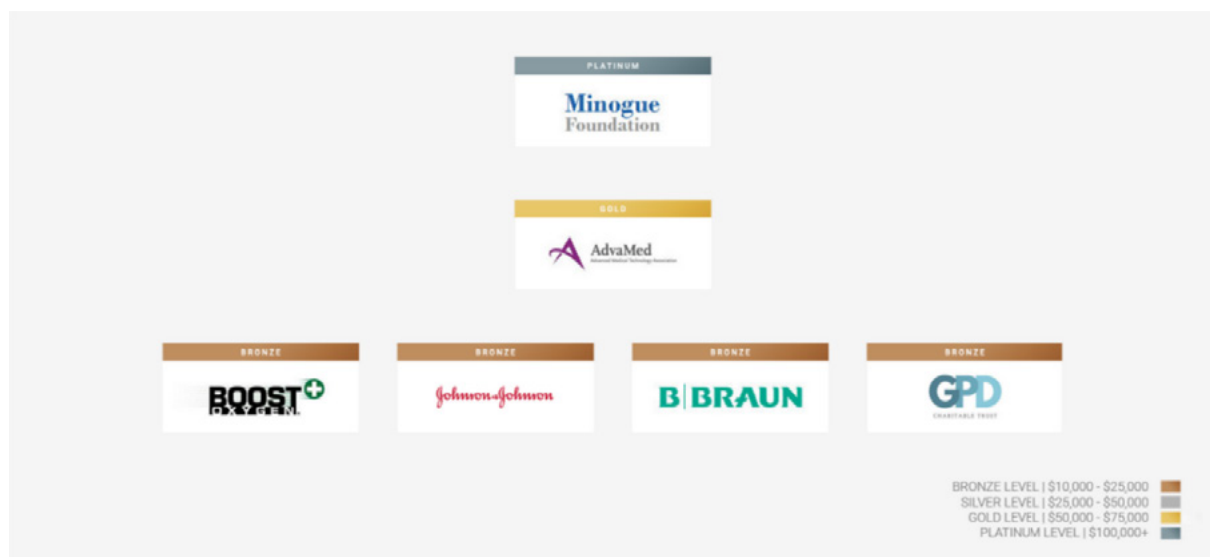
The mentor I was paired with was great because he's been at my target company for a decade. He was helpful with interview preparation and sharpening my networking skills. I really liked that the cohort I was in were all from diverse backgrounds and career interests. It was helpful to bounce ideas off of them with regards to what has been useful, or not useful for them in their career pursuits. Overall, Derek and Victoria have also been valuable resources for me because they've been connecting me with people who can add value to my network.

It was a great way to make connections with people who are already established specifically in Medical Technology, since that is my area of interest. It was an opportunity to make professional connections and it definitely widened my network of people to interview or shadow. The MedTech Color Breakfast was a favorite of mine. Another major standout talk for me was Kevin Lobo's (from Stryker) session on Diversity in the MedTech space. It was refreshing to hear that at his level, there is a strong desire to address these issues, and ensure that interview panels are more diverse in all aspects.

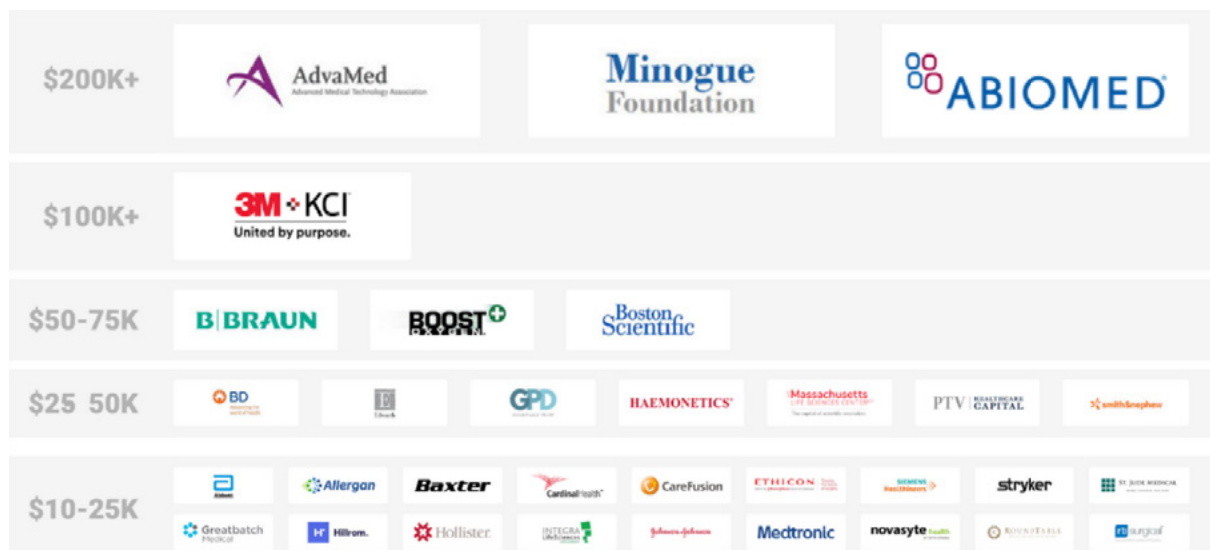


# 04. Corporate Sponsors

## 2020 Corporate Sponsors



## Lifetime Giving By Corporate Sponsors



# 05. Press Coverage



President and Chairman, Derek Herrera, Joins KUSI News for a live Interview



Listen to Derek discuss veteran unemployment related to COVID-19, his journey into the medical device field, the under-representation of veterans in the medical device and life science industries, and more.



Col. Gregory Gadson, United States Army (Ret.) Appointed New Board Member of MedTech Vets



“I am excited to be a part of an organization that is adapting its programs virtually to meet the needs of transitioning service members.

The Academy and MedTech Conference will help MVPvets in its mission to connect military veterans with engaged mentors and careers in the medical device and life science industries,” said Gadson.



# 06. Looking Ahead 2021

In 2021, we are able to expand our support to reach more transitioning service members interested in pursuing careers thanks to our generous donors and supporters.

- **Increased programming: 3 Academies**
- **New webinars with corporate sponsors**
  - **Careers in Medical Devices**
  - **Exploring MedTech Field Sales Roles**
  - **Exploring MedTech Supply Chain & Operations Roles**
- **3 Exclusive networking events post-Academy**
- **Graduates virtual attendance at the MedTech Conference**



To become a corporate sponsor or apply to become a mentor, please email **[info@medtechvets.org](mailto:info@medtechvets.org)**