



# JENNIFER BIBBY

## JENNIFER'S SUCCESS STORY

### RELAUNCH STATS

Length of Career Break  2 years

Nature of Career Break  Adoption

Time to Relaunch  1 month

### CAREER TRAJECTORY

Pre-Break Employer and Job Title

Starbucks  
Director, Global Social Impact

Employer and Job Title at Point of Relaunch

Freedom Learning Group  
SVP, Public Affairs

Current Employer and Job Title

Freedom Learning Group  
SVP, Public Affairs

### ABOUT

Soon after marrying and beginning the adoption process, Jennifer and her husband, a Marine Corps Veteran, welcomed their son who was born just six months later, creating the family they had dreamed of. Despite her extensive work experience, Jennifer felt that "it would be harder to say goodbye to my son every morning, than to say goodbye to my colleagues." She took a two-year career break and ultimately returned to work at Freedom Learning Group (FLG), an organization that fits the needs of Military Spouses and Veterans by keeping them competitive in their respective professional fields as subject matter experts and provides meaningful employment opportunities wherever in the world they live.

### HOW DID THIS NEW JOB OPPORTUNITY COME ABOUT AND WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE THIS WAS THE RIGHT TIME TO RELAUNCH?

My friend Elizabeth O'Brien had just started as the CEO at FLG. Liz and her family were on a cross-country trip and visited with us in Washington. While we were on a hike, Liz said, "what do you think about doing some consulting?" I asked, "What do you have in mind? Can I consult during naptime and bedtime?" And she said, "I could use your help to build brand recognition to attract customers and talent."

I felt having been out of work for two years, I had to dust the cobwebs off a little bit. I had no background in instructional design, but I learned. Everything was on the Google platform (Google Chat, Google Docs) and even though it's intuitive, I was unfamiliar with it. But I definitely had to ramp up in terms of rigor and deliverables. I had to adapt to new technology.

And it has been really fun to apply everything I've learned at Hiring our Heroes and Starbucks to this new role and an environment that was really just gracious and supportive and genuine in their work.

### WHAT TIPS WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE WITH RELAUNCHERS AS THEY CONSIDER CAREER REENTRY?

There's a new way of working these days, and there are so many new opportunities to work remote. And I would also like to encourage relaunchers to fearlessly consider a career pivot. There are so many fantastic training programs out there now. It's an exciting time to go back to work. There are 11 million job openings in this country right now.

There are new ways to work, new pathways to exciting industries that will meet you where you are. There are new ways to connect. New ways to grow your career. Be open-minded and consider all the exciting possibilities.

*To read Jennifer's full success story, visit [iRelaunch's Success Story Archive!](#)*