

## Council Vice President Heather deJong

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**H**eather deJong is the Program and Development Director at the GI Go Fund, a non-profit organization which assists returning veterans with their transition back to civilian life, by providing employment and education opportunities as well as providing a direct path to their benefits. In this role, Ms. deJong is responsible for all fund-raising initiatives, including grant procurement. Additionally, she directs the organization's comprehensive state-wide outreach programs and also manages national veterans programs including the Jeans for Troops Day, where corporations and business engage employees by collecting \$5 donations to benefit the GI Go Fund.

As Program and Development Director, Ms. deJong manages the organization's diverse social media initiatives as well as government relations. She is also involved in the launch of a corporate employment program to increase career opportunities for returning veterans.

Ms. deJong is in her second year as a member of the Township Council and was recently named Vice President. She currently serves as Chair of the Economic Development Committee as well as the Redevelopment Committee and is a member of the Business & Finance, Sandy Recovery and Recreation Committees.

As Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, Councilwoman deJong will continue to work on the completion of an Economic Revitalization Audit, which will help promote revitalization and growth within the Township. The Redevelopment Committee's main goal for the coming year is identifying the most appropriate use for the former Foodtown site, and moving toward development of this location.



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