



*Department of Veterans Affairs
Center for Women Veterans*

National Training Summit on Women Veterans



*July 15-17, 2011
Hyatt Regency Washington at Capitol Hill
Washington, DC*

Sponsored by
Center for Women Veterans and VA Learning University

Co-Sponsors



AMVETS



Disabled American
Veterans (DAV)



Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States (VFW)



Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States Auxiliary

Contributors

Humana Veterans, QTC Medical Services, Inc., TriWest Healthcare Alliance

Supporters

American Legion, Army Women's Foundation, Blinded Veterans Association, Business and Professional Women Association, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Jewish War Veterans of the USA, Military Officers Association of America, National Guard Association of the US, National Association of State Directors of VA, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Vietnam Veterans of America Women Veterans Committee



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

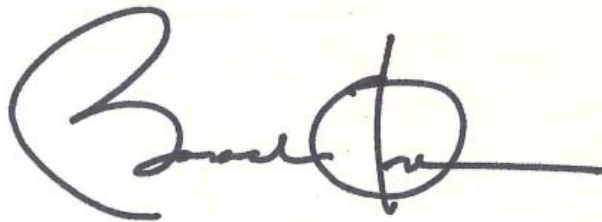
June 30, 2011

I send warm greetings to all those attending the 2011 National Training Summit on Women Veterans.

As a grateful Nation, we are humbled by the skill and courage with which America's women in uniform have served our country. Their sacrifices, past and present, are part of an unbroken line of valor stretching across more than two centuries.

It is our sacred duty to serve the women who have worn our Nation's uniform as well as they have served us, and expanding programs for veterans remains a priority for my Administration. Events like the National Training Summit on Women Veterans help us honor our obligations to these heroes and celebrate their extraordinary accomplishments. As you pay tribute to the legacy of women veterans, I wish you all the best.

May God bless and protect all those who serve, and may God bless the United States of America.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Barack Obama", written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned at the bottom of the page, below the main body of text.



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON
July 7, 2011

**TO THE PARTICIPANTS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS' (VA)
2011 NATIONAL TRAINING SUMMIT ON WOMEN VETERANS**

Welcome to VA's 2011 *National Training Summit on Women Veterans*. Women have served the Nation honorably, in both war and peace, throughout our country's history. Their service and commitment to our core values have been unwavering, constituting a legacy of honor, dedication, sacrifice, and selfless service.

At VA, we honor and celebrate that legacy, which continues to be earned by both our Nation's 1.8 million women Veterans and the nearly three hundred thousand, who currently serve in our armed forces. We will continue to anticipate the needs of our women Veterans as both their numbers grow and their healthcare requirements evolve over time. Our intent is to provide timely and effective healthcare and services that effect well-being and a positive quality of life. Raising awareness of the benefits and services available to women Veterans and treating them with dignity and respect remain among our top priorities. This summit testifies to that commitment.

To all of our conference attendees -- Veterans, Active and Reserve Component Service Members, Veterans Service Organizations, Congressional representatives, and all other advocates for women Veterans' issues -- thank you for your participation, for your commitment, and for your advocacy in addressing the growing and evolving needs of all women Veterans.

I wish you a successful summit, and I look forward to your thoughts, insights, and recommendations.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Eric K. Shinseki".

Eric K. Shinseki



Agenda of Activities

Friday, July 15, 2011

- 3:00 pm – 5:30 pm **Hyatt Regency at Capitol Hill Lodging Check-in & Conference Registration**
- 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm **Sponsored Transportation to Women’s Memorial**
Facilitated by Co-Sponsors, Contributors, and Supporters
- 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm **Co-Sponsor, Contributor, and Supporter Reception***
- 8:00 pm **Transportation back to Hyatt Regency at Capitol Hill**
Facilitated by Co-Sponsors, Contributors, and Supporters

** Disclaimer: We have attempted to meet the dietary needs or restrictions of conference participants. However, given the number and complexities of food allergies/sensitivities, we request that participants with food allergies and dietary restrictions take responsibility for ensuring the meal provided meets their needs.*

Saturday, July 16, 2011

- 7:00 am – 8:00 am **Registration & eBenefits Sign-Up**
eBenefits is your one-stop shop for online benefits-related tools and information. VA Staff are available throughout the Summit to personally enroll you. Sign-Up times may be found at the Registration desk.
- 7:00 am – 5:15 pm **Exhibit Hall** (Regency/Columbia Foyer)
Meet face-to-face with representatives from federal, state, and local agencies, and non-profit organizations, and receive information on a multitude of topics such as employment, Veterans’ benefits and services, and health care.
- 8:00 am **Opening Ceremony** (Regency Ballroom)
Betty Moseley Brown, Ed. D.
Associate Director, Center for Women Veterans
Department of Veterans Affairs
- Presentation of the Colors**
Armed Forces Color Guard
- National Anthem**
Sergeant First Class Holly Shockey, U. S. Army
- Pledge of Allegiance**
Led by Participants from the “Her Story” Video
- Invocation**
Chaplain Susan Addams, U. S. Army

Saturday, July 16, 2011 (cont.)

8:15 am

Introduction of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Irene Trowell-Harris, RN, Ed. D.

Director, Center for Women Veterans
Department of Veterans Affairs

Opening Remarks

The Honorable Eric K. Shinseki

Secretary of Veterans Affairs

8:30 am

Remembrance Ceremony

8:40 am

Break

9:00 am

What's New For Women Veterans Since 2008

This session will highlight the most recent enhancements to healthcare, mental health, homeless programs, benefits and initiatives for returning Veterans:

Patricia Hayes, Ph.D. - Women Veterans' Healthcare

Susan McCutcheon, Ed.D. - Mental Health

Stacy Vasquez- Homeless Programs

Diana Rubens - Benefits

Karen Malebranche - VA/DoD-OEF/OIF Initiatives for Returning Veterans

10:00 am

Plenary Session

The Role of States in Providing Services to Veterans

This presentation will focus on the process, availability of services and access to programs provided by State Governments to Veterans. Each State Agency is tasked by their Governors with the responsibility of addressing the needs of all Veterans irrespective of time in service, branch of military or where they served. States also have Women Veteran Coordinators who are specifically assigned to help women Veterans to access their benefits and receive care from the VA.

The Honorable Linda Spoonster Schwartz

President, National Association of State Director of Veterans Affairs

Barbara Ward

Deputy Secretary for Women and Minority Veterans Affairs for California

National Cemetery Administration Updates for Women Veterans

The Honorable Steve Muro

Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs

Saturday, July 16, 2011 (cont.)

How VSO’s Can Help You!

In the panel discussion “How VSO’s Can Help You!” representatives from AMVETS, Disabled American Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States will provide a brief overview of each organization—including programs and services available to Veterans and their families.

Facilitator: Joy Ilem

Assistant National Legislative Director, Disabled American Veterans

Crystal Dickerson

AMVETS

Dawn Jirak

Assistant Director, Veterans Health Policy

National Veterans Service, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Gidget Rizzo

National Service Office Supervisory, Disabled American Veterans

Caregiver Support

Deborah Amdur

Chief Consultant, Care Management and Social Work Service

Office of Patient Care Services, Department of Veterans Affairs

11:45 am – 4:30 pm

eBenefits sign-up (Registration Desk)

Interviews (Olympic Room)

12:15 pm – 1:15 pm

Co-Sponsor, Contributor, and Supporter Lunch

“Her Story” Panel

Hear the amazing stories of four military Veterans and witness their journeys from being the first females at West Point, the Air Force Academy, a Staff Judge Advocate and an enlisted Marine Corps Lioness.

Dr. Terry Walters (Colonel, USA, Ret.)

Colonel Charlie M. Johnson (USAF, Ret.)

Margo Ellis (Marine Corps Veteran)

The Honorable Allison A. Hickey (USAF, Ret.)

1:15 pm – 2:00 pm

Open Forum

This is a chance for your questions to be answered by VA experts in the areas of health care, mental health, homeless programs and VA policy. If your question is not addressed in this forum, a published document will provide responses following the Summit. VA staff will address individual concerns by contacting you through your identified preferred manner.

Moderator: Colonel Shirley Quarles, R.N., F.A.A.N, Ed.D.

Chair, Advisory Committee on Women Veterans

2:00 pm – 5:15 pm

Health Expo (Columbia C)

Saturday, July 16, 2011 (cont.)

Concurrent Workshop Sessions

(Detailed descriptions for the below options are in the Session Descriptions section of this Book)

- 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm **Healthcare Updates: Health Care Services for Women Veterans**
(Regency A)
Facilitators: **Connie LaRosa and MaryAnn Woodward-Smith**
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
- 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm **Linking Reserve/National Guard Women Veterans...Deployed and at Home**
(Regency C&D)
Facilitator: **Marianne Mathewson-Chapman, Ph.D.**
OEF/OIF Outreach Office for Guard/Reserve and Families
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
- 2:30 pm – 3:30 pm **Resources for MST Survivors** (Capitol Room)
Facilitators: **Susan McCutcheon, Ed.D.**
Director, Family Services
Women's Mental Health and Military Sexual Trauma
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
Joanne Pavao
VA Office of Mental Health Services
- 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm **Time Management Fundamentals** (Concord/Lexington)
Facilitator: **VA Learning University**
- 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm **Healthcare Updates: Post-Deployment Issues** (Regency A)
Facilitator: **Sally Haskell, M.D.**
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
- 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm **Linking Reserve/National Guard Women Veterans...Deployed and at Home**
(Regency C&D)
Facilitator: **Marianne Mathewson-Chapman, Ph.D.**
OEF/OIF Outreach Office for Guard/Reserve and Families
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
- 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm **Resources for MST Survivors** (Capitol Room)
Facilitator: **Susan McCutcheon, Ed.D.**
Director, Family Services, Women's Mental Health and Military Sexual Trauma
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
Joanne Pavao
VA Office of Mental Health Services
- 4:30 pm Break

Saturday, July 16, 2011 (cont.)

Concurrent Workshop Sessions

(Detailed descriptions for the below options are in the Session Descriptions section of this Book)

- 4:45 pm – 5:45 pm **Healthcare Updates: Health Care Services for Women Veterans**
(Regency A)
Facilitator: Patricia Hayes, Ph.D.
Chief Consultant, Women Veterans Health Strategic Health Care Group
Veterans Health Administration
- 4:45 pm – 5:45 pm **Linking Reserve/National Guard Women Veterans...Deployed and at Home** (Regency C&D)
Facilitator: Marianne Mathewson-Chapman, Ph.D.
OEF/OIF Outreach Office for Guard/Reserve and Families
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
- 4:45 pm – 5:45 pm **Resources for MST Survivors** (Capitol Room)
Facilitators: Susan McCutcheon, Ed.D.
Director, Family Services, Women's Mental Health and Military Sexual Trauma
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
Joanne Pavao
VA Office of Mental Health Services
- 4:45 pm – 6:45 pm **When to Say No – Focusing For Success** (Concord/Lexington)
Facilitator: VA Learning University
- 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm **Healthcare Updates: Post-Deployment Issues** (Regency A)
Facilitator: Sally Haskell, M.D.
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
- 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm **Linking Reserve/National Guard Women Veterans...Deployed and at Home** (Regency C&D)
Facilitator: Marianne Mathewson-Chapman, Ph.D.
OEF/OIF Outreach Office for Guard/Reserve and Families
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
- 5:45 pm – 6:45 pm **Resources for MST Survivors** (Capitol Room)
Facilitators: Susan McCutcheon, Ed.D.
Director, Family Services, Women's Mental Health and Military Sexual Trauma
Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs
Joanne Pavao
VA Office of Mental Health Services

Sunday, July 17, 2011

7:00 am

Sponsored Continental Breakfast

Co-Sponsors, Contributors and Supporters

8:00 am

Plenary Session

Moderator: Betty Moseley Brown, Ed.D.

Associate Director, Center for Women Veterans

Department of Veterans Affairs

DoD Panel-Women in the Military

A review of women's health services provided by military treatment facilities. A panel of Active Duty Subject Matter Experts in the areas of Behavioral Health, OB/GYN, Midwifery and Nursing Research will provide information on their respective areas of expertise and the challenges that deployed women face.

Colonel Rebecca I. Porter

Chief of the Behavioral Health Division, Office of the Surgeon General, Army

Lieutenant Colonel Michelle L. Munroe

Deputy Commander for Nursing, Kenner Army Health Clinic, Fort Lee, VA

Megan A. Foradori, RN, MSN

Research Agenda Project Consultant, TriService Nursing Research Program

Patient Centered Care & Cultural Transformation

This session will offer insights into VA's cultural transformation which takes clinicians beyond the numbers and metrics to provide personal patient-centered care to Veterans. This transformative initiative redefines medical care for Veterans with the adoption of a modern health care approach called Patient Aligned Care Team (PACT). PACT is VA's adaptation of the popular contemporary team-based model of health care known at Patient Centered Medical Home designed to provide continuous and coordinated care throughout a patient's lifetime.

Facilitator: Tracy W. Gaudet, M.D.

Director, VHA Office of Patient-Centered Care and Cultural Transformation

Veterans Health Administration

Women Veterans Research

VA Researchers will share the latest information on women Veterans' research on mental health, chronic pain, diabetes and substance abuse

Lori Bastian, M.D.

Senior Research Associate and Staff Physician

Center for Health Services Research in Primary Care, Durham VA Medical Centers

Elizabeth Yano, Ph.D.

Co-Director Center of Excellence

Health Services Research and Development, Veterans Health Administration

Sunday, July 17, 2011 (cont.)

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 10:30 am-10:45 am | Break |
| 10:45 am – 11:45 am | Sponsored Motivational Speaker: Vernice “FlyGirl” Armour
“You HAVE permission to engage...CLEARED HOT” |
| 11:45 am – 12:45 pm | Lunch (on your own) |
| 12:45 pm – 5:00 pm | Personal Development Training
VA Learning University
<i>(Detailed descriptions for the below options are in the Session Descriptions section of this Book)</i> |
| 12:45 pm – 2:45 pm | 7 Habits Jumpstart: Habits 1 – 3 |
| 2:45 pm | Break |
| 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm | 7 Habits Jumpstart: Habits 4 – 7 |
| 5:00 pm | Way Forward, Wrap Up, and Adjourn
Betty Moseley Brown, Ed. D.
Associate Director, Center for Women Veterans
Department of Veterans Affairs |



Session Descriptions

SATURDAY

Workshop Sessions

Healthcare Updates

VA Women's Health experts will run two different breakout sessions focused on women Veterans' health issues on Saturday afternoon, July 16. The first focuses on the rapid growth in the population of women Veterans, enhancements in VA care and services for women, and how VA is evolving to meet their unique needs. This session runs from 2:30-3:30 and 4:45-5:45. The second session focuses specifically on post-deployment health of Operation Enduring Freedom/ Operation Iraqi Freedom/ Operation New Dawn women Veterans, how their needs impact VA services, and new directions in the care of combat Veterans. This session runs from 3:30-4:30 and 5:45-6:45.

Linking Reserve/National Guard Women Veterans...Deployed and at Home

This session will assist current Reserves and National Guard in transitioning back into the community as well as being deployed and preparing for future deployments.

Resources for MST Survivors

Military Sexual Trauma (MST) is a VA term, defined by public law, that refers to sexual assault or severe and threatening sexual harassment that occurs during military service. VHA has many services for Veterans who have experienced MST, including universal screening of all patients for experiences of MST, free treatment for all physical and mental health conditions related to MST, and ongoing education, training and outreach. The MST Support Team, an initiative of VA's Office of Mental Health Services (OMHS) works at a national level within VHA to conduct monitoring of MST screening and treatment, to expand MST-related education, training, and outreach resources and to increase VA's capacity to provide specialized MST-related care. This workshop will provide information on the variety of MST-related services available at VHA and to describe the MST Support Team's most recent monitoring data and current national initiatives on provider education and training and Veteran outreach.

Time Management Fundamentals

This Franklin Covey 2-hour course teaches participants powerful principles that help them identify and clarify their values, set goals, and plan weekly and daily in order to accomplish what counts.

When to Say No – Focusing For Success

During this Hemsley Fraser course, participants will identify their fears using an on-line game, investigate their options using the 4D approach, discover the formula to be a HERO and conduct a skills practice session.

- Ask questions to help clarify a work request
- Assess the work request against current goals and priorities
- Consider the situation and recommend a solution that is consistent with current goals and priorities
- When appropriate, decline the request in a manner that maintains trust and preserves the relationship
- Evaluate and focus on priorities in a way that positively supports change within the organization

SUNDAY

Personal Development Sessions

7 Habits Jumpstart: Habits 1 – 3

Franklin Covey's - The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People—Jump Start: Habits 1–3 proves that anyone can develop a sense of dynamism that will aid them on the path to effectiveness. The first in a series of two teaches the first three habits of effective, dynamic people. Learning Habit 1: Be Proactive® ensures that you move toward your goals with positivity and productivity. Next, Habit 2: Begin With the End in Mind® instills the invaluable traits of vision and foresight. Habit 3: Put First Things First® teaches integrity and the ability to execute on your Wildly Important Goals.

7 Habits Jumpstart: Habits 4 – 7

Franklin Covey's - The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People—Jump Start: Habits 4–7 teaches the skills you need to build lasting relationships. This is the last in a series of two, makes it easy to learn the fundamentals of collaboration and problem solving. By developing Habit 4: Think Win-Win®, you learn how mutual benefit keeps everyone happy. Habit 5: Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood® teaches the value of communication and mutual understanding. With Habit 6: Synergize®, learn the importance of creative cooperation and how people, teams, and organizations can achieve it. Finally, Habit 7: Sharpen the Saw® helps you learn how to maintain your effectiveness edge by creating balance in your life.

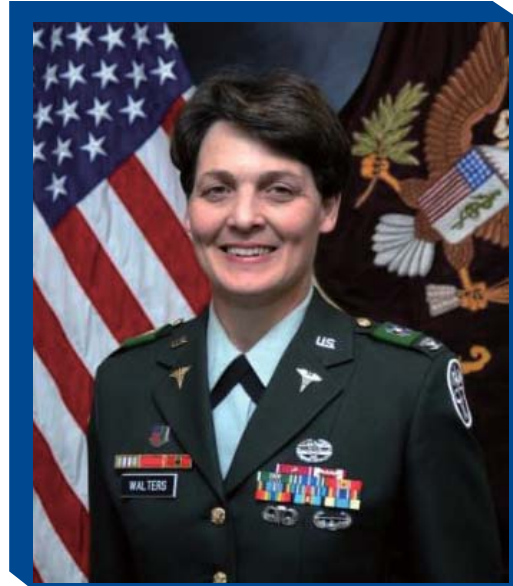




"Her Story" Participants

Terry Walters MD, MPH, MS, CPE

Dr. Terry Walters graduated from the United States Military Academy in 1980 as a member of West Point's first class of women. Born in England as the daughter of a British Naval Officer, she and her parents left England, in 1966 on a trip around the world on a 40 foot sailing yacht. Her father and the boat were lost at sea in 1970 and she and her mother came to the United States as immigrants in 1971. She received her medical degree from the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS) in 1984, and is board certified in Internal Medicine and Geriatric Medicine. After a 30 year career, Dr. Walters retired from the Army in June 2010 and joined the Veterans Health Administration as Director, Environmental Agents in the Office of Public Health and Environmental Hazards. Previous military assignments include Commanding Officer, Womack Army Medical Center and Brigade Commander of the 1st Medical Brigade in Iraq. Her awards and decorations include: Legion of Merit, the Combat Medic Badge, Parachutist and Air Assault Badges. Other accomplishments include selection as a White House Fellow National Finalist in 1994, the Captain Hooper Award for Outstanding Research in Public Health in 1995, and published articles on Injury Prevention, Telemedicine and Military Health Care. An accomplished athlete, she has won National and World Power Lifting Freestyle Figure Skating titles.



Colonel (Retired) Charlie M. Johnson

Col. Johnson is currently an Attorney Advisor, Office of the General Counsel, Department of Homeland Security (DHS). Recently, on June 17, 2011 she was appointed to serve as a Criminal Appeals Judge on the U.S. Coast Guard Court of Criminal Appeals as a collateral duty. Prior to joining DHS, Col Johnson enjoyed serving over 21 years on active duty in the Air Force. Among her assignments, she served as an Appellate Military Judge on the USAF Court of Criminal Appeals where she participated in over 450 cases, authored over 125 opinions and ruled on over 530 motions, a Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) on 3 separate occasions (having deployed as an SJA on one of those occasions), a Circuit Trial Counsel (chief prosecutor) where she prosecuted felony/misdemeanor cases at 11 bases within a 9-state region, and a Vice Commander over nearly 900 attorneys and other personnel worldwide.



Margo Ellis

Margo Ellis enlisted in January 1999 to serve as a Heavy Equipment Mechanic in the Marine Corps of Engineers, where she served in Japan, Korea, Kuwait and Iraq. During her deployment to Fallujah, Iraq in 2007-2008 she volunteered to attach to all male security platoons to search women as part of the Lioness program. After returning to the states and matriculating out of the military Margo was accepted to Georgetown University, where she was one of the founding members of the student veterans group on campus, Georgetown University Student Veterans of America (GU SVA). Margo currently works in the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs and hosts a monthly news program for the Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs called "The American Veteran" on the Pentagon Channel.



The Honorable Allison A. Hickey

As Under Secretary for Benefits, Hickey leads more than 20,000 employees in the delivery of a wide range of integrated programs of non-medical benefits and services to Veterans, their dependents and survivors. Through a nationwide network of 57 regional offices, special processing centers, and VBA Headquarters, she directs the administration of VA's disability compensation, pension, education, home loan guaranty, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and life insurance programs, and an annual budget of more than \$72.3 billion. Brig. Gen. Allison A. Hickey was Director, Future Total Force Directorate (Total Force Integration), Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Programs, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington D.C. She provided leadership and oversight for four divisions in the areas of strategic planning, mission development, media, and congressional advocacy and program and resource implementation for more than 140 new units and their associated missions. General Hickey is a 1980 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, the first class to admit women. She has served in all three of the Air Force components: 10 years active duty, one year with the Air Force Reserve and 13 years with the Air National Guard. The general has held a variety of positions at the unit, state, National Guard Bureau and Air Staff levels, and she has spent more than 15 years in Washington, D.C., in the fields of strategic planning and defense reviews. Prior to her current assignment, she served as the Assistant Deputy Director, Directorate of Strategic Planning, Deputy Chief of Staff for Plans and Programs, where she provided leadership and oversight for five divisions focused on future concepts, transformation, strategic planning, and Quadrennial Defense Review initiatives and long-range future force structure planning efforts. The general has more than 1,500 hours in the KC-135A and KC-10A as an aircraft commander and pilot.





Speaker Biographies

The Honorable Eric K. Shinseki Secretary of Veterans Affairs

Retired U.S. Army General Eric K. Shinseki was nominated by President Barack Obama on December 7, 2008 to serve as Secretary of Veterans Affairs. His nomination was confirmed by the Senate on January 20, 2009, and he was sworn in as the seventh Secretary of Veterans Affairs on January 21, 2009.

Secretary Shinseki served as Chief of Staff, United States Army, from 1999 to June 11, 2003, and retired from active duty on August 1, 2003. During his tenure, he initiated the Army Transformation Campaign to address both the emerging strategic challenges of the early 21st century and the need for cultural and technological change in the United States Army.

Following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, he led the Army during Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom and integrated the pursuit of the Global War on Terrorism with Army Transformation, successfully enabling the Army to continue to transform while at war.

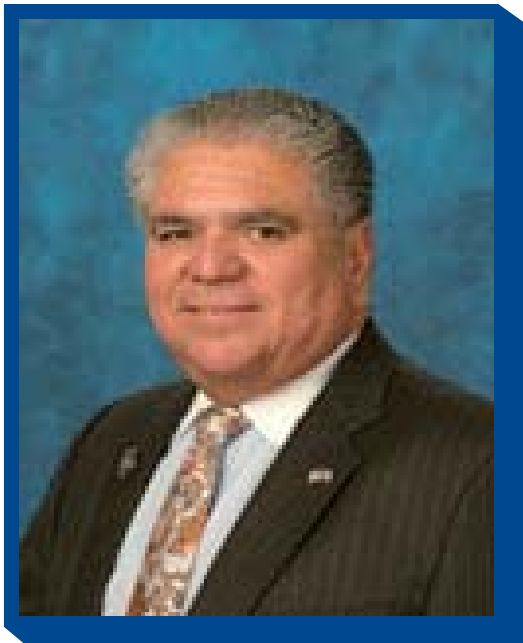
Prior to becoming the Army's Chief of Staff, Secretary Shinseki served as the Vice Chief of Staff from 1998 to 1999. He previously served simultaneously as Commanding General, United States Army, Europe and Seventh Army; Commanding General, NATO Land Forces, Central Europe, both headquartered in Heidelberg, Germany; and Commander of the NATO-led Stabilization Force, Bosnia-Herzegovina, headquartered in Sarajevo.

He was commissioned a second lieutenant of Artillery upon graduation from the United States Military Academy in June 1965 and was attached to Company A, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division as a forward observer from December 1965 to September 1966, when he was wounded in combat in the Republic of Vietnam. He returned to Tripler Army Medical Center, Honolulu, Hawaii to recuperate and subsequently was assigned as Assistant Secretary, then Secretary to the General Staff, U.S. Army, Hawaii, Schofield Barracks, from 1967-1968. He transferred to Armor Branch and attended the Armor Officer Advanced Course at Fort Knox, Kentucky, before returning to Vietnam a second time in 1969. While serving as Commander, Troop A, 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry Regiment, he was wounded a second time in 1970.

Other assignments include Commander, 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry, 3rd Infantry Division; Commander, 2nd Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division; Deputy Chief of Staff, Support for Allied Land Forces Southern Europe; Assistant Division Commander-Maneuver, 3rd Infantry Division; Commander, 1st Cavalry Division, as well as G-3, 3rd Infantry Division, 1984-1985; G-3, VII US Corps, 1989-1990; and Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans, Headquarters, Department of the Army, 1996-1997.

Shinseki holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, a Master of Arts degree from Duke University, and is a graduate of the National War College. Secretary Shinseki was awarded the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with Oak Leaf Clusters), Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters), Purple Heart (with Oak Leaf Cluster), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters), Air Medal, Parachutist Badge, Ranger Tab, Joint Chiefs of Staff Identification Badge, and the Army Staff Identification Badge.





The Honorable Steve Muro **Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs**

Steve L. Muro was sworn in as the Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs on June 6, 2011. As Under Secretary, he leads 131 National Cemeteries in providing dignified burial services for military Veterans and eligible family members. His responsibilities also include: maintaining the cemeteries as national shrines; land acquisition, design, construction, and other activities relating to the establishment of new national cemeteries; overseeing other memorial programs to honor the service of deceased Veterans, including provision of headstones, markers, medallions and Presidential Memorial Certificates; and administering federal grants to help states, territories and tribal governments establish Veterans cemeteries.

Under Mr. Muro's leadership, the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) developed an unsurpassed record of achievement on the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI). For the 2010 survey, and for the fourth consecutive time in 10 years, NCA attained the highest ranking of any participating entity, besting over 100 other federal agencies and industry leaders like Ford, FedEx and Coca Cola.

Mr. Muro's life's work has been linked with the mission of NCA. Prior to this appointment, he served as Deputy Under Secretary and then Acting Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs. From February 2003 to October 2008 he was Director of the Office of Field Programs, and also served as its Acting Director from December 2002 to February 2003. In these roles, he provided leadership and direction to agency field offices and facilities and guided NCA through the largest expansion of the cemetery system since the Civil War. During his tenure, he initiated a new NCA Training Center to centralize and provide consistent training to employees. The first priority for the new center was implementation of a yearlong resident training program for Cemetery Director Interns. Seeing a further need to increase efficiency, he led the process to create a National Cemetery Scheduling Office and a centralized Human Resources function to support all national cemeteries.

Mr. Muro began his NCA career in 1978 as an automotive mechanic at Los Angeles National Cemetery. He then held multiple positions of increasing responsibility, including Directorships and Assistant Directorships at seven national cemeteries and the Memorial Service Network V, headquartered in Oakland, Calif.

Mr. Muro served in the U.S. Navy from 1968 to 1972, including two tours of duty in Vietnam: on board USS Benjamin Stoddert (DDG-22) and with the Seabees of Mobile Construction Battalion TEN.

He is a graduate of Mt. San Antonio Junior College, Leadership VA, the Federal Executive Institute, and the Senior Executive Service Candidate Development Program. In 2008, Mr. Muro was selected by the President of the United States to receive a Presidential Meritorious Rank Award. Awarded to fewer than five percent of senior federal executives, the award recognizes exceptional leadership, accomplishments and service over an extended period of time.

Irene Trowell-Harris, R.N., Ed.D.
Director, VA Center for Women Veterans

Irene Trowell-Harris, R.N. Ed.D. was nominated to be Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Center for Women Veterans in June 2001 and approved by the White House on October 2, 2001. In this role, she is the primary advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on programs and issues related to women Veterans.

Prior to her appointment, Dr. Trowell-Harris served as Director of VA's Office of Inspector General's Healthcare Inspections Washington DC Regional Office. In this position, she directed a multidisciplinary staff of inspectors responsible for conducting oversight reviews to improve the economy, effectiveness, and efficiency of VA's programs.



Concurrent with her position in VA's Office of Inspector General, Dr. Trowell-Harris served 38 years in the U.S. Air Force/Air National Guard (ANG), retiring as a Major General in September 2001. During her military career, Dr. Trowell-Harris held numerous positions, including chief nurse executive; flight nurse examiner; commander; advisor for nursing and readiness; assistant to the director, ANG; and military representative to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) for the ANG. She was a 1997 Air Force representative for the Committee on Women in the NATO Forces Conference held in Istanbul, Turkey.

Dr. Trowell-Harris is an adjunct graduate faculty member at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and serves as an ex-officio member to the DACOWITS and VA's representative on the White House Council on Women and Girls. She also served as a senior policy specialist for the American Nurses Association.

Born in Aiken, S.C., Dr. Trowell-Harris is a graduate of Columbia Hospital School of Nursing, Jersey City State College, where she earned a bachelor's degree with honors in health education. She earned a master's degree in public health from Yale University and a doctorate in education from Teachers College, Columbia University.

Dr. Trowell-Harris was the first African-American female in the history of the National Guard to be promoted to general officer. She is also the first to have a mentoring award and a Tuskegee Airmen, Inc., Chapter named in her honor. Dr. Trowell-Harris is the recipient of numerous awards, most notably the Air Force Distinguished Service and Legion of Merit awards; the Dr. James D. Weaver Society Award, named for the distinguished Pennsylvania Congressman and Air National Guard Flight Surgeon; the Eagle Award from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University for her contributions to aviation; the Air Force Association's National Aerospace Award for Department of Veterans Affairs Employee of the Year 2010, given for the most outstanding performance of duty as a VA employee and her consistent dedication to the well being of our Veterans, the VA Outstanding and Invaluable Service to the Community Award; and numerous Outstanding Performance awards. She is a Distinguished Alumna of Yale University and Columbia University, and was inducted into the Columbia University Nursing Hall of Fame and the Yale University School of Medicine Honor Roll for her dedication to public service. She was honored as one of the "21 Leaders of the 21st Century" by Women's eNews.



Betty Moseley Brown, Ed.D.
Associate Director, VA Center for
Women Veterans

Betty Moseley Brown, Ed. D. assumed the position of Associate Director of the Center for Women Veterans on November 1, 2004. In this capacity, she advises and assists the Director of the Center for Women Veterans in planning, directing, managing, and coordinating programs and activities of the Center.

Dr. Moseley Brown's passion for Veterans began during her United States Marine Corps service from 1978 – 1992. Her VA career began at the San Diego Regional Office where she was a Veterans Benefits Counselor along with serving as the Women Veterans Coordinator. Dr. Moseley Brown briefly left the Department of Veterans Affairs and worked for the

Department of the Navy, Naval Facilities Acquisition Command in San Diego, CA and the Director, Acquisition Career Management Center in Arlington, VA.

Dr. Moseley Brown returned to VA in 2001, and worked as a Program Analyst in the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) Compensation and Pension Service. In 2002, she served as the operational assistant and advisor to the Associate Deputy Under Secretary for Policy and Program Management. In this capacity, she coordinated outreach activities of five major programs to ensure that VBA's outreach efforts met legislative requirements while providing Veterans and dependents with information on benefits and services administered by VA. Her outreach responsibilities also included collaboration with the Veterans Health Administration and Department of Defense (DoD) on seamless Transition activities. Dr. Moseley Brown served on the Secretary's Seamless Transition Task Force, VA-DoD Benefits Executive Council , and was the VBA contact for the Army's Disabled Soldiers Support System.

Dr. Moseley Brown has a Doctor of Education degree from the University of Sarasota. She is an avid Toastmaster achieving the highest level in Toastmasters as a Distinguished Toastmaster while serving in a leadership role as Area Governor. Dr. Moseley Brown is a 2003 E-Government Fellow and a 2004 Leadership VA (LVA) alumnus.

Vernice “FlyGirl” Armour

Known simply as “FlyGirl,” Vernice ignites her audiences with a dynamic spark that can’t be extinguished. Soar through the execution of any plan by harnessing the power of a “Breakthrough Mentality!” From the moment she leaps into the audience, she shows attendees how to go from “Zero to Breakthrough” and create a personal flight plan utilizing her candid strategies to help win on the battlefield of business life!

Leveraging her “Breakthrough Mentality” mindset, she propelled herself from beat cop to combat pilot in a record-breaking three years and became the United States Marine Corps’ first African American female pilot and, shortly after, was recognized as America’s First African American Female Combat pilot by the Department of Defense.



Upon completion of two tours in Iraq and leaving the military, Vernice launched VAI Consulting and Training, LLC. By applying the Zero to Breakthrough™ Success Plan to her own company, Vernice produced over six-figures in revenue within the first 12 months! Her passion is helping organizations and individuals create similar results.

As featured on Oprah Winfrey, CNN, Tavis Smiley, NPR and others, Vernice “FlyGirl” Armour’s fresh style and presentation methods have inspired hundreds of organizations and individuals.

Vernice ultimately impacts organizations and individuals with an understanding of the passion and leadership required to excel. Through her keynotes, executive and group coaching, seminars and executive retreats, Vernice conveys messages of Zero to Breakthrough through her unique insight and life strategy: “You HAVE permission to engage!”

Among her accomplishments, Vernice has been awarded as a pioneering pilot, including her commanding role in technology and engineering. An honorary Doctorate of Laws was conferred on Vernice from Chancellor University in 2010. She was also the first African American woman on the Nashville Police Department’s motorcycle squad, Camp Pendleton’s 2001 Female Athlete of the Year, two-time titleholder in Camp Pendleton’s annual Strongest Warrior Competition, and a running back for the San Diego Sunfire women’s professional football team. Vernice’s first book, Zero to Breakthrough (Penguin) is available nationwide.



Deborah Amdur, LCSW – has overall responsibility for five national programs in the Department of Veterans Affairs: National Social Work, Caregiver Support, Family Hospitality, Post Deployment Care Management, and the VA Liaison Program. In this capacity, Ms. Amdur leads the VACO office that provides policy guidance and program oversight to the field and champions an active succession planning program for the development of current and future Social Work leaders. Ms. Amdur provides oversight and leads the development and implementation of VA programs to serve the returning wounded, ill and injured from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Ms. Amdur is taking the lead in the implementation of a groundbreaking program that provides new benefits and expanded services for eligible caregivers of seriously injured Post 9/11 Veterans along with developing a system-wide approach to supporting caregivers of Veterans from all eras. She received her Bachelor's Degree from Cornell University and her Master's in Social Work from Washington University in St. Louis.

Crystal J. "C.J." Dickerson – grew up in the foothills of Virginia with a Korean War Combat Veteran, Purple Heart Recipient Drill Sgt as a father, playing sports throughout high school and into the Army. She was the 3rd female in the State of Virginia to compete in Boys Sports by being asked to join the Boys Indoor Track Team. Crystal has been a National Service Officer for the Veteran Service Organization, AMVETS, for four years. She currently serves as the Office Manager in the VA Regional Office in the Poff Federal Building in Roanoke Va. She manages all outlying AMVETS offices for the state of Virginia. Crystal is a Veteran of the US ARMY serving for 6 yrs, Crystal was a Police Officer in Virginia for 10 yrs, ranked as TOP GUN in her Academy. She was also a Correctional Officer for 5 years, where she rose to the rank of SGT in less than 3 yrs. She has worked as a sub-contractor for the Dept of Homeland Security, private security in the projects and done personal protection for dignitaries such as the Ambassador to the United States of the Philippines. She is the mother of 3 children. Her son, a US NAVY Veteran OEF/OIF, is a service connected disabled Veteran. She also has twin daughters, one of which works for Disabled American Veterans.

Megan Foradori – is the project coordinator for the research interest groups of the TriService Nursing Research Program (TSNRP), a government agency facilitating nursing research to optimize the health of military members and their beneficiaries. Ms. Foradori currently provides research support to multidisciplinary groups of researchers in military women's health, en route care, and biobehavioral health. She graduated from Johns Hopkins School of Nursing with her BSN in 2004 and her MSN in 2009. Married to a Marine Corps Veteran herself, Ms. Foradori reserves a special place in her heart for Veterans, active service members, and military families. She feels honored and privileged to be a part of the amazing accomplishments of these dedicated teams. Megan joins the summit today on behalf of LTC Nancy Steele, Chief of Nurse Research for the European Regional Medical Command, Germany.

Tracy W. Gaudet, M.D. – is the Director of the VHA Office of Patient-Centered Care and Cultural Transformation based out of Washington, DC. Dr. Gaudet joined the VA at the beginning of 2011. Previously, Dr. Gaudet was the executive director of Duke Integrative Medicine, and assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, North Carolina. Under her leadership, Duke Integrative Medicine opened a state-of-the-art healthcare facility dedicated to the transformation of medicine through the exploration of new models of whole-person health care. Dr. Gaudet also made possible Duke Integrative Medicine's pioneering work on the development of Personalized Healthcare Planning, as well as initiatives in research and medical student and resident education. Prior to her work at Duke, Dr. Gaudet was the founding executive director of the University of Arizona Program in Integrative Medicine, helping to design the country's first comprehensive curriculum in this new field and launching a two-year fellowship. Dr. Gaudet is the author of *Consciously Female*, a book on integrative medicine and women's health. Her most recent book, *Body, Soul and Baby*, was published in 2007. She also writes a regular column for *Body + Soul* magazine.

Sally Haskell, M.D. – is Acting Director of Comprehensive Women’s Health for the Women Veteran’s Health Strategic Healthcare Group in VA Central Office. She is a general internist, clinician educator, and women’s health researcher at VA Connecticut and Associate Professor of Medicine at Yale University School of Medicine. Since 2007 Dr. Haskell has been a co-principal investigator on the HSR&D funded Women Veteran’s Cohort Study. Her research interests include gender differences in post-deployment health, chronic pain in women Veterans, gender disparities in cardiovascular risk prevention, and menopause and hormone therapy. Dr. Haskell received her MD in 1985, and completed Internship and residency at Emory University in Atlanta, GA in 1988. She was Assistant Professor of Medicine at the University of Vermont School of Medicine from 1988-1992. She came to Yale University and VA CT in 1992. She established the Comprehensive Women’s Clinic and women’s health clinic residency curriculum at VA Connecticut and served as Medical Director of the VA Connecticut Women’s Health Program from 1997-2009, and Medical Director of Women’s Health for the VA New England Network (VISN 1) from 2008-2010.

Patricia Hayes, Ph.D. – is the Chief Consultant for the Women Veterans Health Strategic Health Care Group in the Office of Patient Care Services for the Department of Veterans Affairs. In this role, she oversees the delivery of VA health care services for the more than 300,000 women Veteran health care users. Dr. Hayes was appointed effective April 13, 2008, having served as Acting Chief Consultant since January 2007. Dr. Hayes is a 29-year VA employee, having started in the early 1980’s as a clinical psychologist seeing Vietnam-era Veterans with PTSD. As the women Veterans program was expanded, she became the Women Veteran Program Manager for VA Pittsburgh, and later was the Lead for VISN 4. Recently, Dr. Hayes has successfully worked across VHA to expand initiatives for women Veterans’ health care into a broad range of areas of importance, including cardiac health, reproductive health and birth defect prevention, and a comprehensive evaluation of care provision to women Veterans. She chaired the Under Secretary for Health Workgroup on the Enhancement of Primary Care to Women Veterans, a plan to organize women’s health primary care at every VA access point. Currently her office is implementing patient aligned care teams as an integral part of health care services for women Veterans. Dr. Hayes received her PhD in Clinical Psychology from Catholic University in 1984.

Joy Ilem - a U.S. Army service-connected disabled Veteran, was appointed Deputy National Legislative Director of the million-member-plus Disabled American Veterans (DAV) on June 13, 2009. Ms. Ilem is employed at DAV National Service and Legislative Headquarters in Washington, D.C. As a member of the DAV’s legislative team, she works to promote and defend reasonable and responsible legislation to assist disabled Veterans and their families. Ms. Ilem began her DAV career in 1996 as a National Service Officer in Phoenix, Ariz. In 1997, she was assigned as a National Appeals Officer with the DAV staff at the Board of Veterans Appeals in Washington, D.C., where she served until her appointment, as Associate National Legislative Director in April 1999. Ms. Ilem enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1982. Following basic training she was assigned as a medic to the 67th Evacuation Hospital in Wurzburg, Germany, where she underwent additional certification as an emergency medical technician (EMT). She was honorably discharged from the Army in 1985.

Dawn Jirak – became Assistant Director, Veterans Health Policy, on May 1, 2011. In this position she oversees the operation of all various elements relating to Veterans of Foreign Wars Health Policy to include training and evaluating the staff of the VFW 1-800 Call Center, functioning as liaison on health-related issues with VFW Department leadership and a nationwide network of service officers, coordinating field visits and agency surveys of the Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers, participating in national conferences and committee meetings as the principal representative for the VFW, and articulating the VFW’s position/policy concerning Veterans’ health issues. Ms. Jirak also serves as the VFW VAVS Deputy National Representative, administering the VFW VAVS hospital volunteer program nationally. Ms. Jirak began employment with the VFW on June 16, 2008, as an Appeals Consultant and received her

accreditation as a Veteran's service officer in July 2008. In 2010, she was promoted to VFW Appeals Section Supervisor, NVS, at the Board of Veterans' Appeals. In that position, she was responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operation of a nine-person staff responsible for representing Veterans before the Board of Veterans Appeals. In 2010, that staff assisted over 3,900 Veterans and survivors with their appeals. Ms. Jirak joined the Air Force in 1987, and served as an Emergency Medical Technician for over 20 years. She retired at the rank of Master Sergeant, E-7 on February 28, 2008. Ms. Jirak earned an Associate's Degree in Allied Health Services from the Community College of the Air Force, Montgomery, Alabama, in October 2007. A VFW member-at-large, she resides with her family in Waldorf, Maryland.

Connie LaRosa – is the Deputy Field Director, Women Veterans Health Strategic Healthcare Group since 1996. A VA Central Office field based employee, Connie is stationed in Ann Arbor, Michigan and works with VISNs 7-9, 11, 12, 15 & 23. She is responsible for consultation and guidance on issues affecting the delivery of care to women Veterans at 55 medical centers. She participates in training and continuing education to Women Veterans Program Managers. In this position she is also involved in program development, policy formulation and implementation of new initiatives for women Veterans. Connie is a graduate of the Foote Hospital School of Nursing in Jackson, Michigan. She received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Eastern Michigan University and her Masters of Science in Healthcare Administration from Central Michigan University. She is a member of Sigma Theta Tau and alumni of Leadership VA, 1995. Since joining the Women's Health Program, Connie has worked on the implementation of the Women's Health Software (including the interface with CPRS); the MST software program; the Women's Health Strategic Plan; the development of Handbooks, Directives and Information Letters; the Uncomplicated Pregnancy Guideline, several training videos; a tutorial CD-ROM; video-satellite conferences; conference planning and presentations on women's health, military sexual trauma, OEF-OIF, and software development, the development and implementation of the mini residencies in women's health for primary care providers. Most recently she has been involved in the implementation of the Women Veterans Call Center which went live on June 1, 2011.

Karen Malebranche, RN, MSN, CNS – is the Acting Chief Officer for Intergovernmental Affairs in the Veterans Health Administration at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Her major responsibilities include: VHA/DoD collaboration, sharing agreements, outreach and numerous coordination activities with other national and international agencies on Veteran issues and policy guidance. From September 2007 to January 2009, she was the Executive Director for the Operation Enduring Freedom/ Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) Office. Prior to this, she was the Program Coordinator for Clinical and Case Management in the Office of Seamless Transition and the Chief of the State Home Per Diem Grant Program in the Office of Geriatrics and Extended Care. COL (Ret) Malebranche served 31 years in the U.S. Army as an active duty soldier, nurse, senior health systems analyst, program manager, and in various clinical and administrative roles. COL (Ret) Malebranche entered the U.S. Army from her home in Helena, Montana, where her father retired from the military after 27 years. She received her civilian undergraduate degree from the University of Portland and her graduate degree from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN. She is a graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College and has received numerous military and civilian awards for her service as a soldier and an advanced practice nurse. She lives with her husband, COL (Ret) Reginald Malebranche, in Alexandria, VA. They have 4 children - LTC Philippe Malebranche (Phoenix, AZ), Michelle Malebranche (Atlanta, GA), Craig Ferguson (State Dept., Guatemala), and Amanda Therese Ferguson (Daytona Beach, FL).

Marianne Mathewson-Chapman, Ph.D., ARNP – is the Nurse Executive for the Veterans Health Administration and the Outreach Coordinator to Guard/Reserve in the VHA OEF/OIF Outreach Office, with special emphasis for outreach programs to returning Guard/Reserve combat service members/Veterans as they transition from active duty status to Veteran status. Major General Mathewson-Chapman is the former Deputy Surgeon General of the Army National Guard and special assistant to the director,

Army National Guard in Washington, DC. She provided oversight for the health and wellness of 350,000 ARNG soldiers in 54 states and territories. MG Mathewson-Chapman was the first woman promoted to the rank of Major General in the Army National Guard. She retired as a Major General, U.S. Army in August 2005. Her military career began in 1970, in the U.S. Navy, where she was stationed at the Naval Regional Medical Center, San Diego. She has held many positions including Chief Nurse for the 202nd Medical Group; and Deputy Chief Nurse for the 3rd Medical Command in Saudi Arabia, during Operation Desert Storm. In January 1997, she was promoted to Brigadier General, with duty as Special Assistant to the Chief, Army Nurse Corps for Mobilization and ARNG Affairs in Washington, DC. Subsequently, she was promoted to Major General and Deputy Surgeon General of the Army. MG Mathewson-Chapman received a diploma from Trinity Lutheran School of Nursing in Kansas City, earned a BS in Nursing from the University of San Diego, and an MS in Nursing from the University of California, Los Angeles. She completed her Ph.D. in Nursing with a minor in Anthropology and certification in Gerontology Studies at the University of Florida. She is an Advanced Nurse Practitioner in adult health and oncology.

Susan J. McCutcheon, RN, Ed.D. – began her career with the Department of Veterans Affairs in 1982 and has held various administrative and clinical positions during that time. Most of her VA career has been in the field of mental health, with a major emphasis on Veterans with serious mental illness and families. She is a member of the Executive Committee of the Mental Health Quality Enhancement Research Initiative and has recently completed a 3 year term as a board member of the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill of Ohio. She has taught both undergraduate and graduate nursing courses at five different academic institutions. Dr. McCutcheon has received graduate degrees in psychiatric/mental health nursing, industrial/organizational psychology and educational administration. In 2001, she was selected as a Robert Wood Johnson Executive Nurse Fellow. Recently, she was selected for Leadership VA 2005. Her recent awards include the Cleveland Federal Executive Employee Recognition Award by the Cleveland Federal Executive Board and the Mental Health Professional of the Year by the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI)-Metro Cleveland.

Lieutenant Colonel Michelle L. Munroe – grew up in Baltimore, MD. She attended University of Maryland for both undergraduate and graduate studies. She received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing in Dec 1992. She returned from 2001-2003 to obtain a Master's of Science in Nursing specializing in Nurse Midwifery. LTC Munroe was a direct commission in JUL 1992. Her initial assignments included FT Sam Houston, TX; FT Eustis, VA, and FT Hood, TX. She attended graduate school and then continued her Army career as a Certified Nurse Midwife at Tripler Army Medical Center, HI and Madigan Army Medical Center, FT Lewis, WA. While stationed at FT Lewis, LTC Munroe deployed to Iraq FEB 2008 to SEP 2008 with the Deployed Combat Casualty Research Team attached to the 86th Combat Support Hospital in Baghdad, Iraq where she earned a Bronze Star for her implementation of TeamSTEPPS, a patient safety program. In 2009, she has earned the Anita Newcomb McGee award, Army Nurse of the Year. In 2010, LTC Munroe became the Deputy Commander for Nursing at Kenner Army Health Clinic, FT Lee, VA.

COL Cathy Nace, MD – is the Deputy Commander for Education, Training, and Research at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, MD, (soon to be Walter Reed National Military Medical Center), and holds a similar position at the current Walter Reed as the Deputy Commander for Medical Education. She was recently named the Women's Health Consultant to the Office of the Surgeon General of the Army. COL Nace is a Board Certified, practicing OB/GYN, and assistant professor of OB/GYN at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. She is on the faculty of the OB/GYN residency in the National Capital Consortium also in Bethesda, MD. She has been an oral board examiner for the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology since 2004. Dr. Nace has over 26 years in the Army caring for active duty women, retirees, and their families with duty stations ranging from Tacoma, Washington, to Landstuhl, Germany, to Northern Iraq. She worked in the Women's Health Clinic at the Washington DC VA Hospital from 1996-2004, seeing regular clinics on a monthly basis.

Joanne Pavao – is the Monitoring Coordinator for the Office of Mental Health Services’ Military Sexual Trauma Support Team. She has an MPH in Epidemiology from Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Her research interests include the mental and physical effects of interpersonal violence, including intimate partner violence and sexual assault.

Colonel Rebecca I. Porter – received her Army commission from the University of Washington in 1983, where she was a Distinguished Military Graduate and began her Army career as a Military Police Officer. She served as a platoon leader and battalion personnel officer before transferring to the United States Army Reserve, where she was assigned as a Civil Affairs officer. While serving in the Reserves, COL Porter received her Masters of Arts degree in Counseling Psychology from Chapman University. She subsequently entered the doctoral program at Fielding Graduate University. COL Porter transferred from the MP Corps to the Medical Service Corps in 1995 and returned to active duty to complete the Clinical Psychology Internship Program at Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii. She is also a graduate of Tripler’s Postdoctoral Health Psychology Fellowship, is a Board Certified Clinical Health Psychologist, and is licensed in Alabama. She is currently the Chief of the Behavioral Health Division at the Office of the Surgeon General, Army. COL Porter’s military education includes MP Officer Basic Course (honor graduate), MP Officer Advanced Course (honor graduate), Civil Affairs Officer Advanced Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, and the Command and Staff College. She is a member of the Order of Military Medical Merit, as well as the American Psychological Association, the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States, and the Society of Behavioral Medicine.

Colonel Shirley Quarles, R.N., F.A.A.N, Ed.D., U.S. Army Reserves, Chair – currently serves in the US Army Reserve Nurse Corps, with 27 years of both active and reserve service. Dr. Quarles is also Professor and Department Chair at the Medical College of Georgia Health Sciences University—School of Nursing, and an affiliate Professor at Emory University, School of Nursing in Atlanta, Georgia. Prior to these roles, she served as Director of Women’s Health Research Initiatives and Clinical Practice Guidelines Coordinator for the Atlanta Research and Education Foundation at the Atlanta VA Medical Center. Dr. Quarles was mobilized in support of both Desert Shield Storm (Assistant Officer in Charge of the Mobilization/Demobilization Center, Fort Bragg, NC) and OEF/OIF(General Staff Officer—G1, 81st Regional Readiness Command, Birmingham, AL). Dr. Quarles completed her post doctoral studies in Clinical Nursing Interventions at Emory University’s School of Nursing, received an Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration and Research Education, a M.Ed. in Community Health Education, and a B.S. in Nursing Science. As a Colonel, Dr. Quarles completed US Army War College and received a Master’s Degree in Strategic Studies (MSS). She is also a former council member of the Tri-Service (US Army, Navy and Air Force) Nursing Research Program. In 2008, Dr. Quarles was selected as a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing. She has been actively engaged with Advisory Committee on Women Veterans since 2005.

Gidget Rizzo – a disabled Persian Gulf War era Veteran, was promoted as Supervisor of the Disabled American Veterans office in Roanoke, Virginia on February 7, 2011. As a life member of Chapter 14 in Salem, Virginia, Ms. Rizzo began her DAV career as a National Service Officer Trainee in St. Petersburg, Florida in August 2005. After successfully completing her training, she was transferred to our Louisville, Kentucky office in February 2007. NSO Rizzo was promoted to Supervisor of the Togus, Maine office in September 2008, before reaching her current position. A native of Nicholasville, Kentucky, Ms. Rizzo earned a Licensed Practical Nursing (LPN) degree from Manatee Area Vocational in 1995. Ms. Rizzo served in the U.S. Army from September 12, 2000, to September 11, 2004 at Walter Reed Army Medical Center as a nurse in Ward 65 and the Eisenhower Suite Ward 72. Ms. Rizzo also was a part of the Search and Rescue Recovery Team at the Pentagon following the September 11 terrorist attack. Ms. Rizzo resides in Roanoke, Virginia with her bullmastiff Reggie. Her two children, Heather Hunt and Joey Uliasz, reside in Nicholasville and Lexington, Kentucky respectively.

The Honorable Linda Spoonster Schwartz – was appointed Commissioner of Veteran Affairs for the State of Connecticut in 2003. In the Department’s 145 years of serving Veterans, Dr. Schwartz is the first woman to administrate this program. She is Northeast President and Chairman of health Care for the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs. Dr. Schwartz has a long history of involvement in nursing and Veteran organizations. She is an advocate and activist who devoted her nursing practice to healing the wounds of war. She has provided testimony on Veteran issues to both Houses of Congress, the National Academy of Science, the Environmental Protection Agency and Department of State. She received a Masters in Nursing from Yale School of Nursing and holds a Doctorate in Public Health from the Yale School of Medicine. Dr. Schwartz was a member of the United States Air Force (1967-1986) and served both on active duty and as a reservist. She retired in 1986 after sustaining injuries in an aircraft accident while serving as a USAF Flight Nurse and holds the rank of Colonel on the Governor’s Military Staff. From 1995-2000, Dr. Schwartz served as chair and member of the VA Advisory Committee on Women Veterans. Additionally she served on VA’s Advisory Committees for Readjustment of Combat Veterans, Seriously Mentally Ill Veterans and Homeless Veterans. She has been elected to the National Board of Directors of the American Nurses Association, Vietnam Veterans of America and the Vietnam Women’s Memorial.

Stacy Vasquez – currently serves at the Deputy Director, Homeless Veterans Initiatives, Office of the Public and Intergovernmental Affairs, at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) working to eliminate Veteran homelessness. Prior to her current assignment, Vasquez served as the Deputy Director for Operations, Congressional Relations Officer, and Presidential Management Fellow for VA in the Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs. Vasquez was the primary liaison with Congress on issues related to eliminating Veteran homelessness, improving access for women Veterans, rural health, all information technology matters, and DoD/VA collaboration. Vasquez has also worked for a number of years on civil rights issues for Veterans and Service Members. Vasquez has been recognized by Members of Congress and Cabinet Members for her ability to inform difficult decisions that impact Veterans. Vasquez is a twelve year U.S. Army Veteran (1991- 2003) and attained the rank of Sergeant First Class (E-7). Vasquez’ awards and commendations include the Army Commendation Medal (6), Army Achievement Medal (5), Army Good Conduct Medal (3), National Defense Service Medal (2), Armed Forces Reserve Medal with “M” device, NCO Professional Development (3), Sergeant Audie Murphy Club Member, U.S. Army Gold Recruiter Badge with 3 Sapphire Achievement Stars, U.S. Army Basic Recruiter Badge with 3 Gold Achievement Stars, Barry Winchell Courage Award, and the Human Rights Campaign Community Equality Award. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Political Science from the University of Houston and a Masters of Arts in Legislative Affairs from the George Washington University.

Barbara Ward, R.N., M.P.A., U.S. Air Force – served during the Vietnam War era as a staff nurse on a general medical-surgical nursing unit. She currently serves as the Deputy Secretary of Women and Minority Veteran Affairs in California, responsible for policy development of issues related to women and minority Veterans, and research issues that require legislative solutions at the local level. She is a licensed R.N. in the State of California, has a bachelor of science in nursing from Florida A&M University, and a masters degree in public administration and health care administration from Golden Gate University in California. She has extensive experience in health care and managed care, is knowledgeable about Joint Commission of Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), and has experience in project management and program development. Ms. Ward is a member of the Governor’s Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities and the Mental Health Service Act Steering Committee, representing the interests of Veterans. She is a board member of various organizations and a member of several Veterans service organizations. Ms. Ward is a visiting professor at DeVry University.

MaryAnn Woodward-Smith – is the Deputy Field Director for VA Central Office Women Veterans Health Strategic Health Care Group. MaryAnn is the DFD for Area 3 West which encompasses most of the western part of the United States and includes VISNs 16 thru 22. She started her VA career almost 31 years ago at the Nashville, Tennessee, VA Medical Center as a Psychiatric Mental Health Clinical Nurse Specialist providing individual and group therapy for Veterans. In 1997 she was appointed as the Women Veterans Program Manager for VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System in Nashville, and as the Lead Women Veterans Program Manager for the VA MidSouth Healthcare Network, VISN 9. She served in this capacity until 2009 when she was selected as the Deputy Field Director for Area 3 West. MaryAnn has a Master of Science in Nursing from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, where she served on faculty as a Clinical Instructor from 1982 until 2009. She is an ANCC board certified Clinical Specialist in Adult Psychiatric and Mental Health Nursing.

Elizabeth Yano, PhD, MSPH – is Co-Director and Research Career Scientist at the VA Greater Los Angeles HSR&D Center of Excellence for the Study of Healthcare Provider Behavior and Adjunct Professor of Health Services at the UCLA School of Public Health. Trained in health care epidemiology, biostatistics and health policy at UCLA and RAND, Dr. Yano has over 26 years' experience in health services research and program evaluation. She is an internationally recognized expert on organizational influences on quality of care and implementation of evidence-based practice. Dr. Yano led the first assessment of how VA care for women Veterans is organized, evaluated the impact of practice structure on their quality of care, examined changes in care structure over time and studied women's mental health delivery. She is also the Principal Investigator of the VA Women's Health Research Network, organizing technical support, education and mentorship to over 150 VA women's health researchers nationwide, and creating a network of VA facilities to support conduct of multisite women's health research. Editor of the July/August 2011 VA journal supplement, *Women's Health Issues*, she led creation of VA's women's health research agenda, developing the foundation necessary for systematically improving women Veterans' health and health care.





With Appreciation

The Center for Women Veterans would like to thank the following individuals for their participation in the planning of the 2011 National Training Summit on Women Veterans:

Louise Ann Arnheim	Nanese Loza
Frances Ashe-Goins	Karen Malebranche
Rachel Bellamy	Dr. Marianne Mathewson-Chapman
Josie Boisvert	Lucretia McClenney
William Bradshaw	Dr. Susan McCutcheon
Anita Claytor-Jackson	Shannon Middleton
Carolyn Collins	Tongela Moore
Robin Cooper	Dr. Betty Moseley Brown
Diane Dennis-Stephens	Juanita Mullen
Tracey Ford	Carolyn Murphy
Adrienne Fraser-Darling	Nathan Naylor
Deborah Frett	Darienne Page
Christine Hamilton	Barbara Pittman
Michele Hammonds	Timothy Pleso
Kay Hayes	Dr. Shirley Quarles
Dr. Patricia Hayes	Sherry Saunders
Sharon Hodge	The Honorable Linda Spoonster Schwartz
Amy Hogan	Kevin Secor
Nancy Hogan	Linda Sitney
Joy Ilem	Jessica Slider
Suzana Iveljic	Andree Sutton
Dawn Jirak	Carolyn Temple
Verna Jones	Dr. Irene Trowell-Harris
Jennifer Kaplan	Dr. Carrie Tuning
Brenda Keskes	Dr. Laurie Veet
Tyrone Lassiter	Sara Wakeley
Jennifer Legler	Denise Williams
Desiree Long	



Exhibitors

ORGANIZATION	WEB SITE	TABLE
American Women Veterans	www.americanwomenveterans.org	23
AMVETS	www.amvets.org	11
Association of the U.S. Army	www.ausa.org	4
Business and Professional Women/USA (BPW)	www.bpwfoundation.org	3
Defense Centers of Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury	www.dcoe.health.mil	33
Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control and Prevention	www.cdc.gov	43
Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health	www.womenshealth.gov	42
Department of Labor	www.dol.gov	22
Disabled American Veterans (DAV)	www.dav.org	15
DoD Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program	www.yellowribbon.mil	34
Easter Seal	www.easterseals.com	41
Final Salute	www.finalsaluteinc.org	20
Fleet Reserve Association	www.fra.org	30
Humana Veterans	www.humanaveterans.com	14
Library of Congress Veterans History Project	www.loc.gov/vets	28
McElroy Enterprises	www.McElroyEnterprises.com	27
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)	www.moaa.org	12
Montford Point Marines Association	www.montfordpointmarines.com	16
NABVETS	www.nabvets.org	24
National Association of American Veterans, Inc. (NAAV)	www.naavets.org	25
National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs	www.nasdva.net	17
National Association of State Women Veterans Coordinators	www.naswvc.com	5
QTC Medical Services, Inc.	www.qtc.com	56
Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR)	www.womenshealthresearch.org	31
The American Legion	www.legion.org	18
The Healthy Caregiver Foundation - Women Veterans ROCK!	www.womenvetsrock.org	46
TriWest Healthcare Alliance	www.triwest.com	7
U.S. Army Women's Foundation	www.awfdn.org	6
Urban Connection of Greater Washington/ United Methodist Churches	www.bwcumc.org	40
VA Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnership	www.nchv.org	39
VA Center for Minority Veterans	www.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans	2
VA Center for Women Veterans	www.va.gov/womenvet	2

ORGANIZATION	WEB SITE	TABLE
VA My HealthVet	www.myhealth.va.gov	38
VA National Cemetery Administration	www.cem.va.gov	29
VA Office of Interagency Health Affairs	n/a	35
VA Office of Research and Development	www.research.va.gov	36
VA Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization	www.va.gov/osdbu	32
VA Office of Survivors Assistance	www.va.gov/survivors/	37
VA Veterans Employment Coordination Service	www.va.gov/vecs	26
VA Women Veterans Health Strategic Health Care Group	www.publichealth.va.gov/womenshealth/	44/45/47/ 48/50
Veterans Canteen Service	www.vacanteen.va.gov/	9
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. (VFW)	www.vfw.org/	10
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. Auxiliary	www.ladiesauxvfw.org	1
VVA Veterans Health Council	www.vva.org	13
V-Wise (Syracuse University)	www.whitman.syr.edu/vwise/	19
Women in Military Service For America Memorial Foundation	www.womensmemorial.org/	8
Women Marines Association	www.womenmarines.org/	16
Women Veterans of America	www.womenveteransofamerica.org	21

It's
not too late to
submit your Open
Forum question card!
Just include the name of
the person or a depart-
ment you want to get
answers and turn your
card in at
Registration.

Co-Sponsors



Contributors



Supporters





Notes

