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Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention
U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

VA



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Veterans Health Administration
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Ms. Shurhonda Love is the Community Relations Specialist in Partnerships for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Office of Mental Health and Suicide Prevention.

She is a proud Veteran of the U.S. Army who serves as a key member of the national VA Suicide Prevention Program team building partnerships between VA and community stakeholders to include the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security, and Health and Human Services, as well as private and non-profit partners.



Ms. Love is active within the Veteran community, where she serves as a peer leader and national trainer for WoVeN, the Women Veterans Network, and is an Alumni of the Wounded Warrior Project. Drawing on her extensive work in the women Veteran community, Ms. Love manages VA's suicide prevention partner programs and projects impacting women Veterans.

Before joining VA, Ms. Love served as an Assistant National Legislative Director for Disabled American Veterans (DAV). She spent 11 years representing the organization's more than 1 million Veteran members. As the Assistant National Legislative Director, she advanced federal legislative goals, advocated on policies for disabled Veterans and their families, and helped to safeguard Veteran benefits and services from legislative erosion. She also represented DAV before Congress as a subject matter expert on issues related to women Veterans, military sexual trauma, Veteran homelessness, mental health and suicide prevention. She also served as an author on multiple critical issues in The Independent Budget, an annual collaboration between DAV, Paralyzed Veterans of America and Veterans of Foreign Wars that contains policy recommendations to the U.S. Congress aimed at ensuring VA remains fully-funded and capable of carrying out its mission to serve Veterans and their families. At DAV, Ms. Love served as a National Service Officer for seven years, where she provided Veteran to Veteran benefit counseling, provided representation during Veteran benefit hearings, conducted briefings and trainings, worked with local government officials and VA Health and Benefit leadership to advance the mission of DAV.

Prior to her work at DAV, she served 12 years as a Medical Specialist in the U.S. Army. During her service, she was trained as an Emergency Medical Technician and an Alcohol and Drug Abuse Coordinator. Ms. Love holds two U.S. Army Commendation Medals and one Joint Service Commendation Medal, among a number of additional awards and certificates for her exceptional service to our country as a Medical Specialist, Non Commissioned Officer.