



Women Joining ForcesTM Advisory Council

➤ **Lynda C. Davis Ph.D.** Founder and CEO, See.Care.Do Institute

A former Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy, Davis was a leader of the Reform of Case/Care Management for Wounded, Ill and Injured Service Members, Veterans and their Families. Her team created the joint DoD/VA Federal Recovery Coordination Programs to ensure comprehensive care is provided from recovery through rehabilitation to community reintegration for the thousands who are affected during war time. She founded See.Care.Do to support significant, successful, and sustainable service – especially on behalf of our military, veterans and their families.

Dr. Davis, a former Signal Corps Officer in the Army National Guard and the Army Reserve, is the mother of a soldier and volunteers with the USO and TAPS. She served as Co-chair of the Defense Advisory Council on Women in the Military (DACOWITS), and is on the Veterans Rehabilitation Advisory Board (VACOR) of the VA, Virginia's Wounded Warrior Program Advisory Board, and the Women Joining Forces Advisory Council of BPWF.

➤ **U.S. Representative Susan A. Davis (D-CA)** Member, House Armed Services Committee

In Congress, Davis has earned a reputation as a bipartisan consensus builder. She is proud to serve on the House Armed Services Committee and the Education and the Workforce Committee. She is focusing on the issues of defense, education, environment, health care and veterans' affairs.

Davis has made a difference in Congress with veterans' issues by introducing a bill to increase VA home loan guarantees for veterans, sponsoring legislation to increase benefits payments to hospitalized veterans and reducing out-of-pocket health care costs for lower-income veterans. She graduated from the University of California at Berkeley with a degree in sociology. She then earned a master's degree in social work from the University of North Carolina.



➤ **Brigadier General Evelyn "Pat" Foote** U.S. Army (Ret.)

During BG Foote's three decades of service, she commanded at the company, battalion, brigade, and major Army installation levels. Her final tour of duty was as commanding general of Fort Belvoir, Virginia. Foote served with the US Army, Vietnam Headquarters in 1967 with six months of that duty as a public affairs officer in Saigon and six months in Long Binh.

She was assigned to a variety of personnel management positions in the Pentagon and within the Army's Personnel Command; was the first woman Army officer to serve on the faculty of the Army War College (1979-82); was the first woman officer to command an army brigade in Europe - the 42d Military Police Group (1983-85) - and was the only woman general officer to serve as the Army's Deputy Inspector General for Inspections (1986-88). Foote was appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve as a member of the American Battle Monuments Commission (ABMC), the executive agency responsible for the operation and maintenance of 24 American military cemeteries abroad, as well as various memorials located both on foreign soil and in the US. Foote is a BA graduate of Wake Forest University in North Carolina (1953); has an ES degree from Shippensburg State University in Pennsylvania (1977), and has been awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Wake Forest. She is also a graduate of the University of Virginia Executive Program, the US Army War College and the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, NC.

➤ **Marsha Four** Executive Director, Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service and Education Center
Ms. Four is a Vietnam in-country veteran who served on active duty with the Army Nurse Corps from 1967 to 1970.

Ms. Four has been actively involved in veterans' issues on a local, regional and national level for many years. She was the initiator and Executive Director of the Philadelphia Stand Down from 1993 through 1998.

A life member of the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), Delaware County Chapter 67, she has served on VVA's National Board of Directors in Washington, D.C., since 1999 and is Chair of its National Women Veterans Committee. Ms. Four has served as a liaison/consultant to the Department of Veterans Affairs Secretarial Advisory Committee on Homeless Veterans. She also was appointed to the Secretary's Advisory Committee on Women Veterans in 1992, and again in 2001. VA Secretary Principi appointed Ms. Four as Chair of this Committee for two terms from 2002 until August of 2006.

Currently, she is the Executive Director of The Philadelphia Veterans Multi-Service and Education Center, a non-profit agency that has, from its inception nearly thirty years ago, worked exclusively with military veterans.

➤ **Brigadier General Barbara Goodwin U.S. Air Force (Ret.)**

BG Goodwin retired from active duty United States Air Force in the position of Chief, Air Force Nurse Corps, Office of the Surgeon General, Headquarters USAF, Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C. While serving in the USAF, Goodwin received several decorations of honor including the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with one (1) oak leaf cluster, meritorious service medal with two (2) oak leaf clusters and an Air Force commendation medal. Goodwin is a long standing member of Business and Professional Women/USA and BPW Foundation.

She holds a master's degree in Nursing, Bachelor's degree in Nursing, Registered Nurse Diploma and Associate of Science degrees. Goodwin is currently a member of the Advisory Council, Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center and serves as Secretary, Board of Directors for WIMSA (Women's Memorial) and a member of the Board of Directors for AFROC Falcons Landing.

➤ **U.S. Representative Kay Granger (R-TX) Defense Appropriations Subcommittee Member**

Rep. Granger is the Congresswoman for the 12th District of Texas and is the only Republican woman to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives from Texas. She is Ranking Member of the appropriations subcommittee on State-Foreign Operations for the 111th Congress. Granger co-chairs the Anti-Terrorism Caucus and serves as a deputy whip. She serves on the boards of the U.S. Air Force Academy Board of Visitors and Southwestern University. She is a member of the House Select Committee Hurricane Katrina Committee.

She was the first woman, either Republican or Democratic, to sit on the Defense Appropriations Committee that directs half of the full committee's appropriations. Today, she is one of the House of Representatives' leading defense experts. She led two bipartisan Congressional delegations to Jordan to meet and help women who were seeking election to a role in the new Iraqi government and co-chairs the Iraqi Women's Caucus.

➤ **Velma R. Hart, CAE CFO, B-Security Systems LLC**

Velma R. Hart is a partner and CFO at Dallas-based B-Security Systems LLC, a technology company developing software and hardware to prevent identity fraud and theft. Previously, she was CFO of AMVETS. Velma has worked for several non-profits in the Washington area ranging from 501(c)3 to 501(c)19 and variations in between, specializing in the key areas of finance, operations and strategic planning. She has also served in various volunteer capacities, including as a member and Vice Chair of the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) Board of Directors, Chair of the ASAE Finance and Administration Section Council as well as Chair of the ASAE Diversity Committee. She currently chairs the ASAE Board of Directors, and serves on the boards of the Business and Professional Women Foundation, the Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs (NOVA) Foundation and Alliance for Nonprofit Management, where she is the Treasurer.

This year, Velma completed an assignment as a Secretarial appointee to the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans for the Department of Veteran Affairs. She is also a 2005 ASAE Fellow.

➤ **Joy Ilem Assistant National Legislative Director, Disabled American Veterans**

Ilem, a U.S. Army service-connected disabled veteran, was appointed Assistant National Legislative Director of the million-member-plus Disabled American Veterans (DAV) on August 24, 2000. 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.

Ilem began her DAV career as a member of Class III at National Service Officer Training Academy in Denver. Following graduation from the academy in 1996, she was assigned as a NSO Trainee at the National Service Office 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.

She is a 1977 graduate of Totino Grace High School in Fridley, MN. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Arizona at Tucson in 1994, where she majored in archaeology, with a minor in religious studies.

➤ **Lucretia M. McClenney R.N., MSN, CNA** Director, Center for Minority Veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs

As Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs Center for Minority Veterans, McClenney is the principal advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on policies and programs affecting minority veterans. Prior to her appointment she served as special assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Planning, and Preparedness, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). She served 30 years in the Army and retired as a Colonel in November 2001. She served in various medical treatment facilities and staffs worldwide. Her military decorations include: the Legion of Merit (two oak leaf clusters), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (seven oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (two oak leaf clusters), Navy Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, the Army Staff Identification Badge, Office of the Secretary of Defense Staff Identification Badge and the coveted "9A" designator, in recognition of numerous achievements at the pinnacle of nursing excellence.

She is a graduate of the Command and General Staff College and the United States Army War College Fellowship Program at George Washington University, Washington, DC. She is also a graduate of the Johnson & Johnson – Wharton's Fellows Program in Management for Nurse Executives, Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania, Federal Health Care Executives Interagency Institute at George Washington University, Washington, DC and Leadership VA 2004. She received her bachelor's degree in Nursing from Murray State University and a master's degree in Psychiatric–Mental Health Nursing from Catholic University.

➤ **Ruby L. Miller** Director, Administration & Logistics Support, Office of Operations Coordination, Department of Homeland Security

Ruby Miller was selected as the Director, Administrative and Logistics Support Division for the Office of Operations Coordination, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in July 2006.

Miller has held a variety of leadership and management positions in the private sector. Prior to her arrival at DHS, she served as the deputy director of the Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) Center for Minority Veterans. In her 23 years of naval service she held numerous leadership, operational and management positions on senior Navy staffs, retiring as a Commander (05). Miller was selected twice to Command and is the recipient of numerous military decorations, civilian awards and citations.

Miller graduated from the University of Colorado with a bachelor's degree in Journalism and earned a master's degree in *National Security and Strategic Studies* from the Naval War College and a master's degree in *International Relations at Salve Regina University*. She was among the select few nominated as a Navy Federal Executive Fellow to study Post-Soviet military strategy and Central Asian Politics at Boston University and Harvard University. Miller is also active in community and outreach programs including the U.S. Naval Academy's Alumni Steering Committee, National Naval Officers' Association Senior Advisory Board and serves on the Laurel Crest Homeowner's Association Board of Directors.

➤ **Betty Moseley Brown, Ed.D** Associate Director, Center for Women Veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs

As Associate Director of the Center for Women Veterans, Moseley Brown advises and assists the Director of the Center for Women Veterans in planning, directing, managing, and coordinating programs and activities of the Center. She served as the facilitator for VA's 2008 National Summit on Women Veterans'

Issues, a quadrennial event bringing over 400 Veterans, Veteran Service Organizations, Veteran Advocates, Congressional Members and Staffers together to discuss the current issues concerning women in the military and women veterans. In March 2010, Dr. Moseley Brown kicked-off the “Her Story” campaign to recognize the military contributions of women Veterans. Moseley Brown served in the United States Marine Corps service from 1978 – 1992.

- **William Offutt** Director, External Affairs, Military to Medicine, INOVA Health Systems
Offutt is the director of external affairs for Military to Medicine, a program of INOVA Health Systems to increase the number of veterans employed in the U.S. healthcare industry. Offutt previously served as President’s National Hire Veterans Committee (Hire Vets First), US DOL. As the Committee’s executive director, he was responsible to the Committee for its national campaign. To this task, he brought varied experience in large and small business as well as in governmental affairs, politics and the armed forces. Prior to joining VETS in 2003, Mr. Offutt was COO of Nanofab Inc., a nanotechnology developer.

He has also specialized in preparing business plans for small businesses as the managing director of Great Falls Consultants and served as CEO of Cir-Q-Tel Microwave. In addition to working for five years as an investment banker, he worked in governmental and public affairs for AlliedSignal Corporation (now Honeywell) and RJR (now Reynolds American, Inc.). Mr. Offutt has had extensive experience managing political campaigns. He served with distinction in Vietnam.

- **Kimberly Olson, Colonel U.S. Air Force (Ret.) Executive Director, Grace After Fire.**
Kim Olson currently fills the position of Executive Director, Grace After Fire, a Texas-based non-profit organization that is dedicated to providing outreach to all women veterans and their families, offering confidential peer support and increased access to appropriate trauma, mental health, addiction, and community services. She also serves as a trustee on Weatherford ISD School Board, and was recently recognized as “Outstanding Board of the Year for Texas”. Her most recent work experience included serving as HR Director for Dallas Independent School System. Known for her global perspective, she has been the key-note speaker throughout the country and appeared on C-Span, international and local TV, and radio shows.

Her book, ***Iraq and Back***, explores her mission to rebuild Iraq and her journey through the sound and gender barriers of military aviation. It provides Kim’s unique point of view as a senior officer, pilot, wife, and mother.

She served twenty-five years in the U.S. Air Force and was part of the first generation of female military pilots. Olson also served in the Pentagon on the Joint Staff, Office of the Secretary of Defense, and the Air Staff. She deployed to several combat zones including Iraq and Saudi Arabia. Olson received her Bachelor’s degree from Ohio State University, MBA from Webster University, an MA in National Security Strategy from the National Defense University and an MA in National Security and Strategic Studies from Naval War College.

- **Linda Spoonster Schwartz, DrPH, MSN, RN, U.S. Air Force (Ret), Commissioner and Commandant, Connecticut Department of Veteran Affairs**
Schwartz has a long history of involvement in nursing and veteran organizations and is known as an advocate and activist who has devoted her life to healing the wounds of war. She was a member of the United States Air Force (1967-1986) and served on Active Duty and as a Reservist retiring 1986 after sustaining injuries in an aircraft accident while serving as an Air Force Flight Nurse. She received a Masters in Nursing from Yale and holds a Doctorate in Public Health from the Yale School of Medicine. She has served as President of the Connecticut Nurses Association and was elected to the National Boards of Directors of the American Nurses Association, Vietnam Veterans of America and served as Treasurer of the Vietnam Women’s Memorial. She has received the National Commendation Medal of Vietnam Veterans of America, Legion of Honor Bronze Medallion from the Chapel of the Four Chaplains, Archon “First to Lead” from Sigma Theta Tau International Nursing Society and was inducted into the Veterans Hall of Fame of her home State of Ohio in 2004. She was elected to the American Academy of Nursing in 2001. Dr. Schwartz is the first woman to lead the Connecticut Department of Veteran’s Affairs agency in its 146 year history and is president of the National Association of State Directors of Veterans’ Affairs

➤ **Celia Szelwach** DBA, CCEP Program Manager for Women's Health, Atlas Research; Founder/Director, WOVEN (Women Veterans Network)

Dr. Szelwach provides project management for health initiatives focused on rural, women, and minority Veterans for Atlas Research, a consulting firm in Washington, DC. In 2011, she was appointed by the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans. From 2006 to 2009, Dr. Szelwach served on the Advisory Committee on Women Veterans. She serves on the Charles George VA Medical Center's Women Veterans Health Committee in Asheville, NC. In 2007, she founded WOVEN Women Veterans Network, an online community committed to helping women Veterans (and their families) transition from military service.

As an officer and senior-rated parachutist in the Army Transportation Corps at Fort Bragg, NC, she coordinated logistics for the 18th Airborne Corps Emergency Operations Center during Desert Storm and managed logistical operations for two humanitarian service deployments in support of Hurricane Andrew disaster relief in Homestead, Fla. and Haitian relief in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. In 1995, she completed five years of service and transitioned as a captain.

Dr. Szelwach holds a B.S. from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and a doctorate in business administration from Argosy University. Her research interests include women's health, leadership, and cultural competence/disparities in health care.

➤ **Irene Trowell-Harris, R.N., Ed.D.** U.S. Air Force (Ret.) Director, Center for Women Veterans, Department of Veterans Affairs

Irene Trowell-Harris, R.N. Ed.D., was nominated to serve as 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 the VA Office of Inspector General, Washington, D.C. Healthcare Inspections 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 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, 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, Air National Guard (ANG), and military representative to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services 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 Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services for VA. She served as a senior policy specialist for the American Nurses Association.

➤ **Brigadier General Wilma L. Vaught** U.S. Air Force (Ret.) President, Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation

Vaught serves as president of the Board of Directors of the Women In Military Service For America Memorial Foundation, Inc (WIMSA).

During her military career, Vaught held various positions internationally in the comptroller field and she was the deputy chief of staff, comptroller, Air Force Systems Command, Andrews AFB, MD. General Vaught also served as chairperson of the NATO Women in the Allied Forces Committee and was the senior woman military representative to the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services.

She is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Women's History Museum and the Pentagon Federal Credit Union Foundation. Following retirement, she worked as a consultant with the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization as well as with industry. Her numerous military decorations and awards include both the Defense and Air Force Distinguished Service Medals, Air Force Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation

Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Vietnam Service Medal with four service stars, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

General Vaught earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana from which she received the Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award in 1983; she also holds a master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, and an honorary doctorate of Public Affairs from Columbia College, SC. She is the first Air Force woman graduate of the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

➤ **Danielle Corazza** Director, Veteran's Outreach, Business and Professional Women's Foundation

Danielle Corazza is a veteran of the US Army and National Guard. Following military service, she spent ten years working in logistics support for the Department of Defense, and managing government technology projects for Department of Homeland Security. As a service-disabled veteran, Danielle used Vocational Rehabilitation services and the GI Bill to complete a degree in Human Resources and Business Administration from Strayer University. She earned her Master's in Business Administration from the University of Massachusetts. She works with Business and Professional Women's Foundation as the director for their Veteran's Initiative, and serves on the Board of Directors for Family and Home Network.