



August 30, 2016

RE: **2016 Michigan Women Veterans Empowerment Conference**

Dear _____,

Are you aware that there are **46,249 women veterans in the State of Michigan?** Women veterans make up **1% of the United States veteran population** and yet we still remain the **most underserved population in the U.S.A.** The **challenges barriers and struggles women veterans face** in transitioning **from military to civilian life are many**; obtaining gainful employment, access to health care, job training, and homelessness, just to name a few. The key is connecting **women veterans to the benefits and resources** they have **earned in service and sacrifice to our country.** Many women veterans are in **need assistance** and **often tend to isolate** if they don't receive **the critical intervention** of services needed. **Awareness and intervention is imperative** as these issues arise, so does our understanding of the challenges women veterans face each day. Now more than ever women veterans in our community are in need of **our support and assistance.**

Michigan Women Veterans Empowerment is a 501c3 non-profit faith based all-volunteer service organization which was established in hopes to address these issues by **empowering women veterans**, providing **solutions**, helping them make **successful transitions** into all the areas of their civilian lives, find **self-sufficiency** for themselves and **stabilize their families.** MIWVE is a **women veteran led** organization that **collaborates with members** of the Michigan veteran community by **working together** to create a women veteran events and programs that **are tailored made** to meet their needs and to support the women veteran population and their families. **As a disabled Gulf War woman veteran** that has **experienced living 20 years undiagnosed with P.T.S.D.** Post Traumatic Stress Disorder caused by M.S.T., Military Sexual Trauma and the G.W.I., Gulf War Illness. I **can attest to the crucial need** of this type of organization's services, events and programs that are available and designed to **empower women veterans.**

I am writing to request your support, we are in **need of sponsors** for the **first 2016 Michigan Women Veterans Empowerment Conference "The Voices of Women Veterans"** The 4 principals: **Prisms, Pathways, Platforms, Potential** on **Saturday November 19, 2016 from 8 to 4 pm** to be held at the **International Institute of Metropolitan Detroit 111 E. Kirby Detroit MI 48202.** In planning the MIWVE Conference, the vision was developed to **empower women veterans to self-identify, connect, educate, advocate, support** and to **provide a voice for women veterans** in Michigan. In doing so, we maintain our objective to **preserve, strengthen and expand services and opportunities** that are available and offered to women veterans.

It goes without saying **that our success in achieving these objectives** is dependent on the **support and assistance** of our **community partners, organizations, businesses and caring individuals such as you**. Without such support, we would not be a successful thriving community. Government money, while important, is limited, and available services are often at capacity. It **is crucial**, therefore, that community **groups reach out to help provide the support, resources and opportunities women veterans need**. With the event being held in downtown Detroit, we are anticipating a crowd of approximately 250 participants to include vendors, volunteers and spectators, with coverage by **local and national news, radio, and television stations**. We direly **need your support**, please consider **sponsoring the first 2016 MIWVEC** by **donating a tax-deductible monetary gift, so that we can cover all operating expenses for the MIWVE conference and service the women veterans within Michigan**. When you donate a **monetary gift** you will be listed as a **sponsor of this event on our website, flyers, event poster board there are speaking opportunities and vendor booths available**. Also you **will receive a tax-deductible receipt** in return along **with the honor of being noted** as a supporter of our nation's **unsung heroes, women veterans**. Please make checks out to: **Michigan Women Veterans Empowerment with Memo line: 2016 MIWVEC** and mail it to **P.O. Box 22 Goodrich, MI 49438**, also **online giving** is available through PayPal on our website www.empowermiwomenvets.com

There is a range of sponsorship opportunities to promote your organization or business while increasing your visibility in the women veterans market. Packages can be customized: Any donation monetary donation of any kind is accepted and we are also accepting raffle prizes and giveaways for women veterans that participate in the conference.

_____ **\$1,000 Gold – Exhibitor Table, Representative on Speaking Panel, Large logo on our website, (Including Hyperlink to your website), event signage/banner, news media, social media and other marketing materials.**

_____ **\$ 500 Silver – Exhibitor Table, Medium sized logo on website, event signage, banner, news media, social media and other marketing materials.**

_____ **\$ 250 Bronze – Logo on website, banner, news media, social media and other marketing materials.**

_____ **\$ 100 Vendor Table – Sponsorship**

_____ **\$ 50 Individual – Sponsorship**

As always, we greatly **appreciate your support, thank you in advance** and **look forward to your continued support of women veterans** as we work together as community partners to **preserve, strengthen, and expand the services** that are offered to women veterans in the State of Michigan. Thank you for **your time and consideration**. What **empowers** you? Let's **pass it on, join the movement** to empower **women veterans** in the State of Michigan.

Sincerely yours,

Sgt. Stephanie J. Shannon (RET)

Founder/CEO - Michigan Women Veterans Empowerment

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