

***Susan Black, DSW
National Suicide Prevention Officer
Outreach, Transition, and Economic Development
Veterans Benefits Administration***



Dr. Susan Black is the National Suicide Prevention Officer for the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA). In this capacity she serves as the focal point for VBA suicide prevention strategies, activities, and research. She is responsible for organizing suicide prevention efforts and supporting VBA and Veterans Administration (VA) enterprise-wide suicide prevention efforts and initiatives. Prior to her current position, she served as the Chief of United States Air National Guard (ANG) Psychological Health Branch, responsible for directing policy development, clinical operations, strategic planning, clinical suicide prevention, and program research and evaluation for the ANG Director of Psychological Health Program at 90 ANG Wings assigned to 54 States/Territories/District of Columbia, serving 107,000 Air National Guard members and their families.

Dr. Black is a retired United States Air Force Clinical Social Work Officer where she held various clinical and leadership positions to include Chief of the Air Force Wounded Warrior Program, Information Manager for the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, and Social Work Residency Training Director. She also deployed in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM.

Dr. Black received her Bachelor of Social Work from Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL, her Master of Social Work from Barry University, Miami Shores, FL, and her Doctor of Social Work from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN. She is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and is a certified Master Addictions Counselor. She is a Board-Certified Diplomate in Clinical Social Work and holds credentials in the Academy of Certified Social Workers.