



## **VBH announces Veteran of the Month**

July 15, 2019 (Charlotte) – Veterans Bridge Home (VBH) is proud to announce Sherri Thompson as our July Veteran of the Month. Sherri is a former U.S. Navy Seaman and present leader in the community who has a passion for veterans and serving.

Living in Charlotte for four years now, Sherri has had a great impact on the veterans and community around her. She is a mentor to veterans who have recently been diagnosed with legal blindness as she dedicates her time to making sure they are given the best care possible. Sherri is then in charge of improving their overall services and making sure they get what they deserve. She has touched countless lives in this manner and continues to do so.

Taking it a step further, every month Sherri makes birthday calls to veterans with vision loss. Ask anyone and they will say Sherri constantly spends her time making sure veterans are getting attention they need. Her social work and thoughtful attention show her passion for helping others.

Sherri's time in the Navy ended early when she was diagnosed with visual impairment. However, her military career offered enriching experiences, including pioneering services on ships that had been exclusively staffed by men in the past. Breaking through these barriers and making an impact on the sea helped to inspire Sherri later to love veteran work.

Sherri is an Accredited Service Officer and assists with vision-related claims, making sure others can receive everything they should. Sherri also serves on the Mecklenburg board that is tasked with improving access for persons with disabilities in Mecklenburg County, making an incredible impact in the community in this way as the board pushes past boundaries and opens opportunities for the visually impaired.

Her indomitable spirit leads her to an adventurous lifestyle doing activities such as kayaking, tandem biking, speed walking, and blind disc golf. Thanks to her partnership with rehabilitation facilities such as Veterans Affairs (VA), she is thriving and can give back to her community.

Sherri was appointed to the ADA Board by Council Woman Lawana Mayfield, and Sherri is a certified mentor through the Blinded Veterans Association (BVA). The BVA is an association that works closely with blinded veterans to file VA claims, access benefits, and learn about social support groups and other community engagement activities.

Being a Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Sherri participates in advocacy and mentoring, as well as leading adjustment group therapy sessions. She has won many awards in social work and has won community awards for advocacy.

Volunteering her own time, putting veterans first, and mentoring others are just snapshots of Sherri's work for veterans and her community. Her work and dedication have not gone unnoticed, and many veterans can attest her growing impact. Veterans Bridge Home is proud to highlight her achievements.

Visit [Veterans Bridge Home](https://www.veteransbridgehome.org) (VBH) for more information. If you'd like more information about services VBH provides or to nominate a Veteran, email us at [info@veteransbridgehome.org](mailto:info@veteransbridgehome.org).

### **About Veterans Bridge Home**

*Veterans Bridge Home helps Charlotte-area Veterans successfully transition home after military service by offering employment and mental health services, along with networking and fellowship opportunities. Through NCServes, the VBH team can address additional needs like education or housing, and connect them to available community, state, and federal resources. For more information about our mission and what we do, visit [www.veteransbridgehome.org](https://www.veteransbridgehome.org).*