
2025 National Women Veterans' Day Entrepreneurship Conference –Impact Report

📍 *Morgan State University, Baltimore, MD*

📅 *June 11, 2025*



About the Event

On **June 11, 2025**, the **Government Certifications, Contracting & Match Making Solutions Center (GCCMMSC)** proudly hosted the National Women Veterans' Day Entrepreneurship Conference, in partnership with W.O.M.E.N., EDAC, the Baltimore Metropolitan Women's Business Center at Morgan State University, and the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Held on **National Women Veterans' Day**, this event served as a powerful platform for **empowering, equipping, and elevating women veterans** and military-connected entrepreneurs. The full-day experience featured high-impact workshops, contract-readiness clinics, and curated networking opportunities, all designed to bridge the gap between entrepreneurship and federal contracting success.

2025 National Women Veterans' Day Entrepreneurship Conference Summary

Participation Snapshot

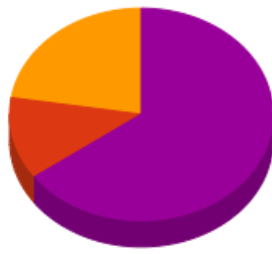
Category	Count
Total Registrants	99
In-Person Attendees	59
Exhibitors	19
Cancellations	8
No-Shows	29

Pre-Event Survey Highlights

Out of 99 registrants, **40 completed the pre-event survey** (46% response rate), offering insight into the audience served:

- **Business Owners:** 38
- **Veterans Represented:** 25
 - Service-Disabled: 18
 - National Guard/Reservists: 3
 - Military Spouses: 2
- **Minority Participants:** 51
 - African American: 48
 - Hispanic/Latino: 4
 - White: 5
- **Female Participants:** 54
- **Disabled Participants:** 16

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- Established (Over 1 year) (26)
- Not in Business (5)
- Start Up (Less than 1 year) (9)

Stage of Business Summary

Among survey respondents, the majority of participants (26) reported being established business owners with over one year in operation. An additional 9 identified as start-ups (less than one year in business), while 5 respondents indicated they were not yet in business.

This distribution highlights that the conference successfully attracted a diverse mix of entrepreneurs, ranging from experienced business owners to those in the early planning or launch stages, underscoring the event's relevance across the full small business development spectrum.

United States Military Affiliation & Veteran Status Summary

Out of the pre-event survey responses, **33 participants** shared their **military branch or service affiliation**, including connections to agencies such as **NOAA, Public Health Service, and Space Force**, among others. Additionally, **34 participants** identified their **veteran status**, with responses spanning across **active duty, reservists, veterans, and military spouses**.

These insights affirm the conference's strong reach within the military-connected community and reinforce its mission to center and uplift **women veterans and service-aligned entrepreneurs** on their path to business success.



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Program Highlights

The conference was anchored by inspirational speakers and practical sessions that moved attendees from intention to action:

Featured Speakers:

Ms. Gloria Dent, CEO and Retired Sergeant Major, CEO of Genegi Logistics provided an inspiring and detailed key note about her journey from the military to owning a successful government contracting business focusing upon logistics, human resources, and information technology.

Breakout Experiences

- **Business Readiness Clinics** – Access to live feedback and certification steps
- **Matchmaking & Networking** – Attendees connected with exhibitors and procurement professionals
- **Working Lounge: "The Command Hub"** – A productivity zone for entrepreneurs to work, connect, and refocus

Resource Providers & Exhibitors

The conference featured a robust lineup of resource providers and exhibitors who delivered direct access to capital, contracts, and certifications. Attendees engaged with representatives who offered one-on-one guidance, resource materials, and follow-up opportunities aligned with SBA goals of small business growth and federal procurement inclusion.

Participating agencies and organizations included:

- U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)
- Maryland Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs
- Maryland Capital Enterprises
- Maryland Department of Veteran & Military Families
- Meridian Management Group
- Maryland Department of Commerce and its Military Base Liaisons
- Maryland Department of Public Safety and Corrections
- Maryland Department of Labor
- Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM Bank)

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- Maryland Technology Development Corporation (TEDCO)
- Maryland Department of Transportation (MBE Program)
- Morgan State University Procurement
- Maryland Department of General Services (DGS)

.and many more dedicated partners.

Event Themes

The conference centered on three pillars:

1. Empowerment

Through storytelling, mentorship, and recognition of lived experience, attendees left encouraged and confident.

2. Equipping

From capability statements to procurement strategy, participants gained practical tools to move their business forward.

3. Elevation

Women veteran entrepreneurs were **seen, heard, and celebrated**, both for their service and their innovation.

Participant Reflection and Feedback:

Participants played a key role in modeling what procurement readiness looks like in action. They shared their journeys and engaged with attendees around accessing capital, securing certifications, and building their BAIL team—bankers, accountants, insurance agents, and lawyers.

Notable contributors included:

- Mavis Brown, Mavis Brown Consulting – a recently certified WOSB, SDVOSB, and MBE/VBE business owner in Maryland
- Rochelle Hemingway – veteran and executive coach focused on leadership and resilience
- Basso Ghee, PMP – procurement professional and project management leader

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Their presence served as a real-time example of what's possible when veteran entrepreneurs take decisive steps to formalize, grow, and protect their businesses.

Participant Quotes:

"Thank you for such a class act! The professionalism and execution were top-notch."

— *Gloria R. Fenwick, Fusion Advanced Technology, LLC*

"It was a whole experience—not just another networking event."

— *Attendee Reflection*

"Thank you for having us. We look forward to participating in future events."

— *MMG Capital Group*

"I left with more than contacts—I left with contracts to pursue and confidence to lead."

Key Takeaways

- The **"I Got This"** mantra became the heartbeat of the day—spoken, felt, and embodied by attendees.
- Attendees left with **clarity around certifications, confidence to pursue federal contracts**, and a **community to keep going**.
- SBA partners and local resource providers reported **strong engagement, qualified leads**, and **renewed energy** for supporting veteran and minority entrepreneurs

Event Media:

- **Photos:** [View Gallery](#)
- **Videos:** [Watch Recap](#)