

Karen Saffari, Veteran US Army, is a Veterans Benefits Advisor for the New York State Division of Veteran Services. She is the proud daughter of a United States Marine Corps, Vietnam Veteran. Both of her grandfathers served in WWII.

She served in the US Army as a combat medic for a little over four years. Exuding military excellence and discipline, Karen worked while using her GI Bill to pursue her bachelor's degree in Elementary and Special Education, and a master's degree in Literacy and Cognition at St. Joseph's College on Long Island. She taught for 12 years and has five teaching certifications. She loved teaching but felt that the veteran population would be a better fit.

Karen paid it forward in service as an employee of the Veterans Service Agency, Suffolk, New York, where her passion was ensued. Karen went on to further serve veterans at the NYS DVS, where she is known for changing the lives of Veterans.

Karen is a proud single mother of two grown children, Logan and Madison, now 21 and 22. She knows of the transition from military service to civilian as a married to single mother. Karen wants to continue to make the difference in the lives of other veterans who experience the traumas of transition, and believes the Veteran population to be extremely deserving, but understands the unique needs of the woman veteran.

Karen exemplifies the fact that for the Veteran, service never ends.