

Morgan Woodson is from Buffalo, NY and is a Veterans Benefits Advisor for the NYS Division of Veteran Services. She served as a Pharmacy Technician in the United States Air Force at Travis Air Force Base, CA from 2007 – 2011. She deployed to Kandahar, Afghanistan in 2010 and was assigned to a Contingency Aeromedical Staging Facility (CASF) unit. While in Afghanistan she operated a pharmacy and assisted with the stabilizing, loading, and unloading of patients on aircraft that were being evacuated to medical centers. During her deployment she became ill and was ultimately medically retired from military service.

After her separation, Woodson went on to attain her degree in Business Administration from Medaille College and a Master of Public Administration degree from Hilbert College. While at Hilbert College she started an Office of Veterans Services through AmeriCorps Vista as part of her thesis “Returning the Favor of Service: How can Hilbert College Assist Student Veterans in the Military to College Transition?”.

Inspired by her difficult military to civilian transition, Woodson became an avid volunteer in her local community. She served as a volunteer at Dress for Success, a committee member for the Buffalo Veterans Day Parade, participated in the organization of veteran’s outreach events, served as the adjutant for American Legion Post 430, served as the Veterans Engagement Coordinator for Team Red White and Blue, and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the WNY Veterans Housing Coalition.

The loss of one career opened doors for Woodson to serve her country in a different capacity. Her cumulation of personal and professional experiences gave her a new purpose; to help other veterans and their families navigate through the next chapters of their lives.