



## National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service

Public Meeting – Chicago, IL  
Thursday, June 28, 2018  
Kennedy-King College  
U Building, Mini Great Hall  
740 W 63rd Street, Chicago, IL 60621  
#Inspire2Serve

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### 6:30-6:50pm      **Opening Remarks**

Introduction: *Debra Wada*, Vice-Chair and Commissioner

Remarks: *Evelyn Sanguinetti*, Lieutenant Governor of Illinois

### 6:50-7:30 pm      **“Pathways to Employment”**

Moderator: *Alan Khazei*, Commissioner

Panelists:

- *Leah Eggers*, Program Manager of Youth Workforce Development, Youth Guidance; Americorps Alum; and Returned Peace Corps Volunteer
- *Ruthie Moore*, Contributor, WVON 1690AM
- *Eli Williamson*, Co-Founder/Board President, Leave No Veteran Behind

### 7:30-8:00 pm      **Q&A and Public Comments**

*The Commission’s work includes understanding why people serve, why people may choose not to serve, review of the military selective service process, and recommending ways to increase the number of Americans in military, national, and public service. The Commission is actively seeking input from the public and invites you to join the conversation. Share your thoughts at: [www.inspire2serve.gov](http://www.inspire2serve.gov).*



## SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

### **Evelyn Sanguinetti**, *Lieutenant Governor, State of Illinois*

Evelyn is proud to serve the residents of the State of Illinois as their 47th Lieutenant Governor. She was formerly an adjunct professor of law and a Wheaton City Councilwoman. Following graduation from the Florida International University, Evelyn moved to Chicago to attend The John Marshall Law School where she developed an understanding and passion for the law and for Illinois. Evelyn soon joined Illinois Attorney General Jim Ryan's office as an Assistant Attorney General where she fought to protect the people of the State of Illinois. In 2010, Evelyn suffered an accident while walking on Wheaton city property. Subsequent medical examinations revealed that she has Multiple Sclerosis. Evelyn vowed to never let her MS stop her. She proceeded to run for, and win, an election to the Wheaton City Council on a platform of delivering efficient, streamlined government. As Lt. Governor of Illinois, Evelyn is committed to fighting for all Illinois residents. She applies the same passion to her new role that has propelled her throughout her life, from humble beginnings in Hialeah, FL to becoming Illinois' first Latina Lieutenant Governor.



### **Leah Eggers**, *Program Manager of Youth Workforce Development, Youth Guidance; Americorps Alum; and Returned Peace Corps Volunteer*



Leah currently serves on the senior program leadership team at Youth Guidance in Chicago as the Program Manager of the Youth Workforce Development department. She manages the agency's portfolio of workforce development programs aimed to prepare and connect high school students and recent high school graduates to meaningful employment and postsecondary opportunities. Since starting in 2014, Leah has driven the agency's strategy for expanding its workforce programming to include in- and out-of-school program sites, an AmeriCorps service program, summer internship and employment opportunities, and a network of college and career partnerships. Prior to Youth Guidance, Leah designed and led several successful youth development programs and projects at various nonprofits in Chicago and Fargo, ND. Leah holds a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice from North Dakota State University and a Master of Arts degree in Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago. Leah is also a proud AmeriCorps Alum and Returned Peace Corps Volunteer. Leah is currently a Visiting Fellow with Education Pioneers and has been recognized for her work by the Workforce Professionals Training Institute, the Chicago Jobs Council, and MHA Labs.

### **Ruthie Moore**, *Contributor, WVON 1690AM*

Ruthie Moore is from Pembroke Township, IL, labeled as one of the poorest communities in America. Growing up, she understood the importance of using her voice to promote social and economic change within her community and exhibited leadership skills at an early age. Ruthie has a passion for empowering young people and over a decade of experience working in youth development. Ruthie holds a BA in Sociology, Juvenile Justice and African and Black Diaspora Studies from DePaul University. Throughout college, she served two terms as President of the Black Student Union, coordinating various community service events throughout campus and delivering the commencement address. While still a student, Ruthie volunteered with an organization that taught a comprehensive health curriculum to at-risk Chicago Public School students, which sparked her interest in starting a career in the field of public health, centered on HIV/AIDS prevention research. While working with the most vulnerable populations of youth in various non-profit, government and private sectors, Ruthie discovered a penchant for developing leadership skills within young people. This has led to her becoming an expert Youth Worker, with the ability to train adults on how to holistically better serve youth. She is a master facilitator and public speaker that has conducted numerous workshops and trainings for youth and adult organizations including: Aspen Institute, Obama Foundation, Chicago Community Trust and Chase Foundation. As a proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Ruthie is very active with several community service organizations and has a lifetime commitment to public service. She believes in the authentic manifestation of youth voice and has worked for organizations such as the Chicago Public Schools, Mikva Challenge and the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center. Ruthie calls Chicago home and currently works at Midway Broadcasting Corporation, where she can be frequently heard on WVON 1690AM.



### **Eli Williamson**, *Co-Founder/Board President, Leave No Veteran Behind*



Eli Williamson, is the co-founder of Leave No Veteran Behind, an Illinois-based non-profit focused on employment opportunities for veterans. While serving as Executive Director at Leave No Veteran Behind, Eli implemented debt relief and transitional employment programs, workforce skills training, and community service opportunities for veterans making the transition from military to civilian life. He was the former Director of Veterans Programs for the Robert R. McCormick Foundation where he led the foundation's placed based grantmaking in support of Illinois Veterans. He currently consults with individuals and cross-sector institutions on leveraging existing behaviors for philanthropic good. Prior to 2009, Eli served in both Iraq and Afghanistan as a non-commissioned officer in the US Army, a member of Psychological Operations (PSYOP), and as an Arabic linguist working on outreach to foreign civilian communities supporting special operations forces. Before leaving the Army, Eli served as a retention officer, providing career counseling and transition support to soldiers leaving the military. During college Eli also worked two seasons as a wildland firefighter in Missoula and Darby Montana.