



THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON

September 7, 2017

Dear Colleagues and Conference Attendees:

Congratulations to the National Association of Veterans' Research and Education Foundations for 25 years supporting the success of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) affiliated research and education nonprofit corporations. Since 1992 this annual event has played a significant role in educating research leaders, developing best practices, and building critical professional connections. This milestone event promises to continue that tradition by providing practical education, stimulating important discussions, and forging new partnerships as VA modernizes into a world-class organization for Veterans.

When we work together and collaborate to best serve Veterans, we are all answering President Lincoln's charge for those who have "borne the battle." Therefore, during this silver anniversary conference, I encourage you to take a moment to reflect on and celebrate the achievements of the last 25 years and consider how you, as an individual and in collaboration with your colleagues, can make the next 25 years even more successful.

On behalf of VA, congratulations and thank you for all you are doing to better serve the health care needs of America's Veterans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David J. Shulkin, M.D." The signature is written in a cursive style.

David J. Shulkin, M.D.