

## **PRESS RELEASE**

## THE SHIELD TRAVELS TO WASHINGTON DC SUPPORTING VETERANS

BEND, OREGON 02/24 - Central Oregon nonprofit The Shield is traveling this month with a delegation including staff from Oregon Health Authority and Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs to Washington, DC. On February 5-9, The Shield's executive & clinical director will join delegations from several states to participate in a policy academy focused on reducing Veteran suicide. The policy meetings will be hosted by a cooperative of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and the Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration and are a part of The Governor's Challenge initiative.

The Governor's Challenge advances a public health approach to suicide prevention by bringing together key state leaders to share best practices with others across the nation and develop strategic action plans focused on Veteran suicide prevention.

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THE SHIELD, 501c3 is a Central Oregon nonprofit serving local Veterans & First Responders, providing no-cost specialized counseling & advocacy. Contact: Dan Anderson, 541.390.3133, info@shieldcentraloregon.org. https://shieldcentraloregon.org

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