



Suzanne Shirley serves as a national Fellow with the Veterans Health Administration Innovation Ecosystem as the Entrepreneur in Residence. In this role, she works to expand VHA's partnerships with academic affiliates across the country to promote design-thinking in solving Veteran challenges through academic design competitions and hackathons. Ms. Shirley is also an Innovation Specialist with a background in Clinical Social Work, Healthcare Administration, and System Redesign at the McGuire Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Richmond, Virginia. With experience in process improvement and innovation, she works to empower and mentor medical center employees in their path to providing innovative clinical care to Veterans and improving the overall

quality of care on both local and national levels. Ms. Shirley works collaboratively throughout the city of Richmond to promote human centered design in academia, health care, infrastructure and development of community spaces. Ms. Shirley volunteers with non-profits and community organizations such as Comfort Zone Camp, Bike Walk RVA and Greater Richmond Fit4Kids to promote health and healing for Richmond youth. She is Lean Six Sigma Black Belt certified and currently facilitates trainings and leads projects for employees interested in pursuing Yellow and Green Belt certifications. Ms. Shirley grew up in Washington DC, received her Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Montana State University and her Master's degree in Social Work from Virginia Commonwealth University.