The Mission Continues is a national nonprofit organization that connects military veterans with new missions in under-resourced communities. We’re building a movement that empowers veterans to continue their service, and empowers communities with veteran talent, skills and preparedness to generate visible impact. In March 2020, we launched our inaugural cohort of the Women Veterans Leadership Program (WVLP), the first-of-its-kind professional development program designed exclusively for women veterans.

Program members heard from engaging speakers, networked with other veterans, and gained practical skills and experience in topics ranging from interpersonal communication and public speaking to increasing resiliency. A key component of the program focused on storytelling as a leadership tool and, in particular, the power of women veterans raising their voices and sharing their personal experiences to change the narrative of what it means to be a woman veteran. Program members were tasked with a capstone project of writing their own transforming/emerging story, one of four story types that make up the Storytelling Project Model. The inaugural cohort of the Women Veterans Leadership Program graduated 58 women veterans.
“This program has helped me gain more confidence and pride in myself as a woman veteran. I loved seeing the diversity and strength of the other women. This program opened my eyes to how I can really continue to serve and give back to myself, family and community.”

— COHORT 1 PARTICIPANT

84% of WVLP participants would recommend WVLP to another veteran

79% of participants felt they developed more meaningful relationships with other women veterans

89% of alumnae report more access to resources since joining WVLP

76% of participants feel more equipped to work in the civilian world

86% of participants believe they are pursuing a meaningful mission with TMC

“Encompassing self-care, routines and habits is a huge challenge I face, as well as realizing my worth and worthiness of success. This program and the other ladies involved helped me to realize that I am not alone in these challenges and I have the skillset to tackle them. [The women veterans I’ve met] have become great advisors and friends themselves.”

— COHORT 1 PARTICIPANT