

Alicia D. Cooper

Professional Summary

Strategic community advocate, public servant, and veteran with 20+ years of experience leading community engagement, accessibility policy, and People Engagement & Accessibility programs across local and federal agencies. Proven success coordinating public events, managing cross-sector partnerships, and navigating constituent services. Experienced with CRM systems for veteran registration and casework. Chair of the Denver Commission for People with Disabilities and IDDEAS Advisory Board member, with a deep commitment to equity, access, and statewide engagement.

Key Skills & Tools

- Community Engagement & Outreach
- Constituent Services & Public Events
- CRM Platforms (VA Systems, SharePoint)
- People Engagement & Accessibility & Accessibility Leadership
- Government & Policy Coordination
- Communications & Public Speaking
- Project Management (Agile/Scrum)
- Microsoft Office, Google Workspace, Adobe Suite

Professional Experience

Contact Representative / Foreign Medical Program Specialist

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – Denver, CO | 2020–Present

- Use CRM platforms to manage registrations, resolve case issues, and ensure veteran benefit access
- Perform eligibility determinations, outreach, and communication with diverse veteran populations
- Analyze data, draft responses, coordinate benefits, and uphold regulatory policy standards

Chairwoman, Denver Commission for People with Disabilities

City & County of Denver | 2022–Present

- Lead citywide outreach and engagement efforts for disability rights and equity
- Coordinate with City Council and Mayor's Office to align policy priorities and legislation
- Host community events such as ADA Pride, Listening Tours, and advocacy panels

Special Emphasis Program Manager

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs – Denver, CO | 2021–Present

- Advance People Engagement & Accessibility strategy for over 1,500 employees via inclusive programs and observances
- Collaborate with national and regional EEO offices to identify and address systemic barriers
- Support IDEA Committee with planning, training, and cultural education initiatives

Public Service & Leadership

- Board Member, Denver Waldorf School
- Chair, Legislative Committee – Human Rights & Community Partnerships (HRCP), Denver
- IDDEAS Advisory Board Member – Focused on intellectual/developmental disability innovation
- Vice President of the Executive Board, Gelli's Community Fridge
- Board Member, Matrescence in Black
- Mayoral Appointee – Veterans Commissioner, City of Aurora

Education & Certifications

- OSHA 30 Hour | IC3 Certified (Computer Fundamentals, Applications, Living Online)
- Leadership Fundamentals | Project Management & SCRUM Foundations
- Designing Training Programs | Inclusive and Beginner's Mindset | Critical Thinking for Judgment
- De-escalation of Professional Bias | Business Administration | Public Policy
- Neuroscience | Certification | Harvard University

Alicia D. Cooper

DCPD CHAIR

Alicia D. Cooper is a U.S. Army Veteran, lifelong advocate, and the proud Chairwoman of the Denver Commission for People with Disabilities. With over two decades of leadership in government, community organizing, and disability justice, Alicia centers her work at the intersection of access, equity, and accountability. She's also a mother, creative strategist, and founder of Buttress Sanctuary—an innovative housing vision for unhoused Veterans.

Whether she's testifying for policy change, mentoring the next generation of advocates, or helping build a world where disability pride is lived, not just recognized—Alicia leads with heart, strategy, and unapologetic truth.