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2021 Inductee, Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame

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Michael Hartford is the Program Analyst for The Mac Parkman Foundation's Florida Veterans Brain Health & Suicide Prevention Program, a statewide initiative funded through a partnership with the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs. He previously served as a Special Projects Healthcare Consultant with the Avalon Action Alliance and as Chief of Staff/Chief Operations Director at the Marcus Institute for Brain Health (MIBH) in Aurora, Colorado.

A retired U.S. Navy Captain, Michael's final active-duty assignment was Deputy Director, Navy Reserve Medicine, at Defense Health Headquarters. He also served as the Navy Senior Liaison Officer to the Department of Veterans Affairs and as a Care Manager with Navy Wounded Warrior/Safe Harbor. Before commissioning, he served as a Non-Commissioned Officer in the Air Force, Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, and Army National Guard.

Michael has held senior executive and C-suite positions across the Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Florida Department of Health. His 22-year VA career included serving as CEO, VA Health Administration Center (Denver, CO); COO, VA Loma Linda (CA); and Acting CEO, VA Long Beach (CA). He later served as Administrative Services Director/Financial Administrator for Hillsborough County within the Florida Department of Health.

He is Board Certified and a Life Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (LFACHE), Vice President of Manasota Veterans, Inc., and a Team Lead for the Florida Governor's Challenge Task Force. He is a Past President of the ACHE Western Florida Chapter and previously served on the President's PREVENTS Task Force and the VA Veterans Advisory Committee on Rehabilitation.

A graduate of Northeastern University (BS) and the University of La Verne (MHA), he completed postgraduate studies at The George Washington University. He is a member of numerous veteran and military service organizations and was inducted into the Florida Veterans Hall of Fame, Class of 2021. His decorations include the President's Legion of Merit and the Meritorious Service Medal (Gold Star).