Dr. Kiersten Downs

VA Researchers Who Served

James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital

Main area of study: ***Community reintegration***

Dr. Kiersten Downs is a health services researcher with the Center of Innovation on Disability and Rehabilitation Research at the James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital in Tampa, Florida. She works on studies and program evaluations on Veterans' experiences with reintegration into civilian life after leaving the military. She has a doctorate in applied anthropology—which uses theories, methods, and customs of people and cultures to solve human problems—and hopes to become a primary VA investigator.

Downs served as a bomb loader for four years in the U.S. Air Force and spent four more years as an administrative assistant in a fighter jet squadron in the New York Air National Guard. She was deployed overseas three times, including once to Iraq.

VA

U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration

Office of Research & Development