

Melissa A. Heinlein, CAVS

***Burston Award 2007
Philadelphia VA Medical Center
Years as DVS: 12***

Advice from Melissa . . .

Always try to get to your chapter meetings. We know it is hard to get away from your desk, but we also need the support to feel re-energized. Don't be afraid to take chances in your role as a DVS.

What you didn't know about Melissa . . .

- She loves to write poetry.
- She tried out for the Philadelphia Phoenix (women's professional football team) and did receive a call back.
- She received an award for Miss Teen of Pennsylvania.
- She led an all-male dek hockey team in penalties.



Professional Accomplishments/New Programs started since receiving the Burston Award in 2007

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- Hospitality/messenger program
- Contributing writer for Volunteertoday.com
- Served on strategic planning retreat
- Started volunteer transportation program to transport veterans to and from the Medical Center

About Melissa . . .

She received her Bachelor of Arts in English/Marketing from King's College, Wilkes-Barre, PA; Master of Arts from West Chester University in Communication Studies and a Master of Science from Chestnut Hill College in Administration of Human Services. She is currently pursuing her PhD at Marywood University in Human Development/Health Promotion. In her spare time, Melissa is spending time with family and friends, her adoring (and crazy) cat, Oscar, and writing as she sits along the lake of Marsh Creek State Park.