

Cherron “Lula” Blakely, DBA, MBA



Dr. Cherron “Lu” Blakely is a member of a senior leadership team in the Center for Devices & Radiological Health (CDRH) at the Food & Drug Administration (FDA) where she leads the quality team that supports the Super Office and continues research about how leaders use QM tools and techniques to achieve business excellence. Cherron is also a National Baldrige Examiner, Adjunct Faculty in the University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC) MBA Program and a council member of the Howard County Commission for Veterans and Military Families. Cherron has over 24 years of federal service which began in the United States Army. Prior to joining the FDA, she served in several positions in hospital operations, quality management, and healthcare compliance at the Veterans Health Administration in Dublin Georgia, Duluth (Atlanta), Georgia, and the VA Central Office in Washington, D.C. She also worked for several years as a Laboratory Manager in a VA medical center. Cherron has a diverse background of training including certifications as a Medical Laboratory Scientist (ASCP), Project Management, Mentor (Fellow), Quality Improvement Associate, Quality Auditor, and Lean Six Sigma Green Belt training. During her military career as a Medical Service Corps Officer and Enlisted Administrative Specialist, she was awarded the Army Meritorious Service Medal (MSM), the Army Commendation Medal (4 times), and the Army Achievement Medal (4 times). Cherron has a Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA), a master’s degree in Business Administration (MBA), and a bachelor’s degree in Clinical Laboratory Science. Cherron and her husband have two daughters and reside in Howard County, Maryland.