



**Juanita Shanks** is the Founder and CEO of FailSafe-ERA, a non-profit organization in Fredericksburg, Virginia. It is designed to provide transformative services to families and individuals impacted by incarceration. Since the inception of FailSafe-ERA in 2009, Juanita's passion to help the justice-involved and families impacted by incarceration derives from her walk through the criminal justice system with her son. Although he passed away at an early age her fight for reform did not end with his death, it was magnified. One of her greatest accomplishments is the Inaugural Hall of Change where 17 returning citizens (formerly incarcerated) were inducted into the FailSafe-ERA Hall of Change as Agents of Change: <https://www.failsafe-era.org/hall-of-change>

Juanita is a Veteran of the United States Army. She has 35 years of experience in the Federal Government, from which she retired August 2017. She held several management positions with responsibility for providing enterprise-wide policy and support in the areas of human resources, installations management, strategic planning, operations, and budget. One of her greatest accomplishments was championing the Defense Logistics Agency's resiliency and wellness program campaign for 25,000+ civilian and military personnel.

Juanita is a certified John Maxwell Coach, Teacher, Trainer, and Speaker. She is committed to helping individuals better understand their purpose through intentional learning and living. She is a Dr. Amen Certified Brain Health Trainer where her passion lies in removing the stigma of mental health and helping others understand the importance of taking care of their brain. Juanita is a change management strategist, constantly called upon to help individuals develop their personal change management strategy and to provide guidance and direction on building a non-profit organization.

Juanita authored two books: **Building Your Spiritual House: Pathway to the Next Level** [https://www.amazon.com.be/s?k=Building+Your+Spiritual+House%3A+Pathway+to+the+Next+Level&i=stripbooks&cri d=1JYAIHZUWVL1N&sprefix=building+your+spiritual+house+pathway+to+the+next+level%2Cstripbooks%2C152&ref =nb\\_sb\\_noss](https://www.amazon.com.be/s?k=Building+Your+Spiritual+House%3A+Pathway+to+the+Next+Level&i=stripbooks&cri d=1JYAIHZUWVL1N&sprefix=building+your+spiritual+house+pathway+to+the+next+level%2Cstripbooks%2C152&ref =nb_sb_noss) and **iQonquer Moving Past the Pains "It takes courage to Evolve and Grow"** [https://www.amazon.com.be/-/en/Juanita-C-Shanks/dp/B09Q6SZGT3?language=en\\_GB](https://www.amazon.com.be/-/en/Juanita-C-Shanks/dp/B09Q6SZGT3?language=en_GB)

She is the recipient of numerous awards, to include the National Association of Professional Women Woman of the Year Award, Superior Civilian Service Award, Meritorious Civilian Service Award, the Distinguished Civilian Service Award, 2023 Stafford Region Top 10 Most Influential Women Award, and the 2019 Fredericksburg Region Difference Maker: [https://fredericksburg.com/discover/diffmakers/difference-maker-juanita-shanks-on-a-mission-to-help-former-inmates-rebuild-their-lives/article\\_c2946812-7626-520c-98c7-b84e1e3a0eae.html](https://fredericksburg.com/discover/diffmakers/difference-maker-juanita-shanks-on-a-mission-to-help-former-inmates-rebuild-their-lives/article_c2946812-7626-520c-98c7-b84e1e3a0eae.html)). Juanita holds a degree in Business Administration. She is married with one daughter and two grandblessings.

#### **Juanita Shanks and FailSafe-ERA in the News:**

<https://www.failsafe-era.org/in-the-news>

NBC News Interview

<https://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/northern-virginia/inspired-by-loss-faith-based-prison-ministry-redoubles-efforts-despite-covid-19-challenges/2559812/>

Prayer vigil at Rappahannock Regional Jail

[https://fredericksburg.com/news/local/community-gathers-to-pray-for-rappahannock-regional-jail-inmates-and-staff/article\\_5af99060-f867-5805-9b79-03f99979ddfb.html#tracking-source=home-trending](https://fredericksburg.com/news/local/community-gathers-to-pray-for-rappahannock-regional-jail-inmates-and-staff/article_5af99060-f867-5805-9b79-03f99979ddfb.html#tracking-source=home-trending)

**Juanita C. Shanks**