

WFWP USA HerStory Podcast Episode 11: A Life of Living for Others

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"I came from a family of givers and service people, and our motto is it's better to give than receive. I got that from my grandmother, and I got that from my father, and I got that from my mother... You get up, and every day you don't look at defining your value. I just look at 'What do I need to do today, and how can I fill the needs that are before me?'"

In this deeply moving episode of the HerStory Podcast, host **Adia Lancaster** introduces listeners to **Doris Edwards**, a lifelong servant-leader whose work has spanned continents and communities, from early childhood education in Ohio to veteran support programs in Hawaii. Doris's journey is rooted in a family legacy of giving, shaped by her experiences as a military daughter, wife, and mother. Her passion for service blossomed into impactful leadership roles, including chartering veteran auxiliaries and mobilizing communities to

care for those often forgotten - particularly disabled veterans and nursing home residents. Through heartfelt stories, Doris reveals how her faith and compassion have guided her mission to bring dignity, joy, and connection to others.

A central theme of the conversation is Doris's view on feminine leadership as a powerful complement to masculine leadership, particularly in traditionally male-dominated spaces like the military community. She stresses the importance of collaboration, where empathy, creativity, and attention to detail from women enrich the broader mission of peace and service. Doris highlights how women often act as truth-tellers and logistical anchors, helping men see the bigger, more nuanced picture and fostering mutual respect and teamwork. Her approach to leadership emphasizes integrity, patience, and rising above competition by focusing on shared purpose rather than rivalry - principles she encourages all women to embrace in their own journeys.

As the episode draws to a close, Doris reflects on her legacy - not in titles or accolades but in the opportunities she has created for others to grow and lead with confidence. She encourages listeners to lead with love, serve with courage, and recognize that true impact comes from intention and compassion rather than a perfect resume. Her final message is a call to embrace one's purpose boldly and kindly, trusting that each person has a unique role in building a more peaceful and compassionate world. Doris's story offers inspiring insights and a heartfelt invitation to all who wish to serve, lead, and uplift their communities.

