

EDWIN A. "BUDDY" GRANTHAM, MBA

Managing Member, GML Solutions, LLC



Education

Master Sci. Business Administration, University of Maryland, 1995

B.S. Education, Texas A&M University, 1984

U.S. Army Graduate level leadership and management courses, 1985, 1988, 1989, 1995

Texas State Guard Senior Leader Courses 2014, 2020

Numerous FEMA and TEEK certifications

Registrations & Affiliations

Military Officers Association of America

Association of the U.S. Army, Houston Chapter 2nd Vice President

Veterans of Foreign Wars Life Member, past Post CDR and current Post Officer

Disabled American Veterans, Life Member

Desert Storm Veteran's Association

Patriot Guard Riders

TAMU Corps of Cadets Association

1st Cavalry Division Association

75th Division Association

Buddy Grantham has over 35 years of experience in managing programs, leading projects, developing training, and providing consulting services to improve organizational performance. He is very experienced in building highly productive teams of employees from diverse cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. Buddy is adept at developing and implementing strategic plans as well as short and long term goals that are both measurable and attainable. He has been involved at various levels in the planning and executing of operations around the world. He has supervised the planning and execution of budgets, monitored financial reports, developed internal controls, performed statistical analysis, conducted financial audits and presented overviews to executive management. He has a unique ability to effectively organize projects, manage tasks, build coalitions and lead people. Buddy has served on several boards and organization leadership teams guiding their progress. His leadership has helped countless members of society achieve a better life.

Managing Member, GML Solutions

Consulting with government and nonprofit organizations to improve efforts to house homeless veterans and provide services to veterans and active military. Coordinating logistics, transportation and supply chain management. Assisting nationally in disaster recovery.

Previous Experience

Harris County Veterans Services Officer

Senior advocate for veterans and their dependents. Orchestrated assistance to veterans and their dependents regarding compensation, pension, medical, educational, insurance, death benefits and coordinated for at risk needs.

Executive Director, Helping A Hero

Provided specially adapted homes to severely wounded combat veterans to reintegrate them into their communities. Conduct strategic planning, engage communities, develop veteran resiliency and implement board directed programs.

Senior Vice President, Sunland Group

Assisted with strategic direction and business development for a regional engineering and architect firm. Working with executive management to increase opportunities to add value to our partnering businesses and customers.

Assistant Director, Fleet Management Department, City of Houston

Helped build the City's centralized system to provide oversight of the City's 13,500 vehicle fleet in all facets of it's life cycle. Under his leadership the department helped eliminate over 1,500 vehicles and reduced the average cost of repair while increasing vehicle readiness availability levels. Supervised over 300 mechanics, implemented mechanic leadership and technical training programs and helped Houston become one of the Top 25 Fleets in America. Managed various department contracts and cost reduction programs.

Boards and Advisory Committees

Current

Houston Veterans Affairs Hospital Advisory Committee

Veteran Advocates Services & Training

Houston Military Affairs Committee

U.S. Army Houston Recruiting Command Community Relations Team

Houston Live Stock Show and Rodeo's Armed Forces Appreciation Committee (Founding Member)

Ellington Field Joint Task Force

Neighborhood Home Owners' Association Vice President

Previous

Harris County Sheriff's Mental Health task Force

Founder of Housing Houston's Heroes

Texas Coalition of Veterans Service Organizations

Houston Community College Veterans Program

Lone Star Veterans Association (Combined Arms)

Director Emeritus, Office of Veterans Affairs, City of Houston

Buddy served the City of Houston's Mayor by building and managing programs to make Houston the best place for veterans to live, especially for the veterans returning from war. Programs covered: education, employment, housing, benefits, medical care and social integration. Honors include being named "Best City in America for Veterans to Live" by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce and U.S.A.A. Insurance. The National League of Cities and First Lady honored Houston as a "Top Ten" city in America for "Ending Veteran Homelessness". The City was also named as the Large Category "Best Employer in Texas" by the Employer Support of Guard and Reserve (ESGR). Working with community partners, he increased funding for Veteran Assistance programs from \$50 to over \$400 million. His model was emulated across America.

COO of Coalition for the Homeless of Houston and Harris County, Inc.

He oversaw all operational activities to include Homeless Services, HUD's Continuum of Care grant (which he coordinated County wide program improvements which raised the evaluation score over 10% points and increased the annual funding rate from \$15 to \$20 million), Community Resources, a housing program and the homeless database. He created community standards for providing services to the homeless and

developed a Rapid Re-Housing program that resulted in over 70% of individuals remaining in housing and reaching stability after six months.

Chairman, Joint Hurricane Community Settlement Task Force

Buddy provided leadership to the steering committee developed to oversee the integration of over 100,000 hurricane evacuees who had either decided to settle in Greater Houston Area or were temporarily remaining in Houston. Wildly successful, the JHCSTF tasks included legislative lobbying, cash flow management, housing, adult education, job training, employment, case management, and transportation.

Joint Hurricane Housing Task Force, and Vice President of Sunland Group

During Hurricanes Katrina and Rita, he helped establish and manage the housing processing centers at the mega-shelters and the FEMA Disaster Recovery Center where his teams processed over 55,000 housing vouchers for Hurricane families as they helped to provide over 37,000 housing units for over 120,000 evacuees in less than four months. Later while serving as the JHHTF operations manager and Vice President of Sunland Group for Government Affairs, he managed evacuee and landlord customer services to include a call center, issue resolution teams, the program database, invoice validation, records management, and fraud investigations.



Military Officer

U.S. Army (Retired) / Texas State Guard (Active)

Colonel Grantham began his career as an Army Armored Cavalry Officer and then transitioned to the sphere of logistics as a Quartermaster Officer. As a career Active Duty Army Combat Arms/Logistics Officer, Buddy was involved at various levels in planning and executing operations and logistics functions at numerous locations in organizations of various sizes around the world in both combat and hazardous duty locations. He has commanded Cavalry and Armor units and served in several postings as the primary operations or logistics staff officer. He also served as an operations and logistical advisor mentoring both Active Duty and Reserve/Guard units to meet wartime standards in preparation for combat zone missions. Colonel Grantham currently serves as the Chief of Staff for the Southeast Texas Region in the Texas State Guard (TXSG), one of the three elements of the military forces under the control of the Governor of Texas. The TXSG focuses on humanitarian missions during times of disaster and disaster recovery: providing evacuation services, operating emergency shelters, providing food, water and materials and tracking evacuee movement as well as search and rescue missions on land and water. The TXSG also provides medical assistance as well as specialized engineer facility inspection services.



Volunteerism and Public Speaking

Buddy has orchestrated programs to assist veterans such as creating the 10,000 member Lone Star Veterans Assoc. (now Combined Arms), and worked with government and community leaders to build programs to assist veterans and all people in need of a hand up. He is a talented speaker before both large and intimate audiences. Buddy has provided Master of Ceremony duties for Memorial Day at the Houston VA Cemetery and spoken often at City Hall Ceremonies, as well as numerous other venues and events.



COL Grantham has received a number of awards including the Bronze Star and the Army Valorous Unit Award for combat operations in Desert Storm, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (five awards), the Army Commendation Medal (six awards), the Texas Outstanding Service Medal, the Texas Medal of Merit and the Texas Humanitarian Service award among others.

Contact Information

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