

## 2024 Women in Construction: Rachel Evans, Commodore Builders

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Rachel Evans Assistant Project Manager

## Commodore Builders

What was your greatest professional achievement or most notable project in the last 12 months? I'm currently working on the new Veterans' Home in Holyoke, a joint venture with Commodore Builders and Walsh Brothers. The new 350,000 s/f facility will replace the existing long-term care facility and will feature 234 long-term care beds. It's my first time working in the public sector and on a project of this scale adjacent to an occupied facility. Knowing the impact of the project on the Veterans and the community makes it even more important. It's truly remarkable to see the number of women involved in this project. Collaborating closely with our project executive, Nathalie Assens, has been invaluable; she's been a supportive mentor on and off the project. Being part of an environment where women contribute across various roles, from fieldwork to project management and design, is incredibly empowering.

What are your goals for the future? I'd like to be a mentor to the next generation to pay forward the support I've had through my career so far. My father is in the industry, and I grew up seeing how impactful his relationships were to his success. Starting my first role in construction was daunting, but I was fortunate to build relationships with those that encouraged me to be curious, ask questions, and soak up each learning experience. My mentors, many of whom are women, have always showed up for me fully and invested in my growth, and I'm excited to do the same for other women in the industry.

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