

Role Models and Leaders

If you are still not convinced of JOAG's value and why JOAG matters, consider a fellow senior officer's perspective, given by CAPT Sara Newman, senior advisor to JOAG: "JOAG involvement, and particularly Voting Membership, is a tremendous opportunity for junior officers to take on fulfilling, challenging and career-enhancing leadership roles in one of the Commissioned Corps' most influential organizations. **JOAG members are role models and leaders. Through JOAG involvement, they gain skills and create opportunities, shaping them to become the top leaders and decision makers in the Corps.** Additionally, the work done by JOAG members has long-term impacts on the future success and viability of the USPHS and the Corps. All senior officers and civilian supervisors should highly recommend junior officers to become active JOAG participants and seek leadership positions within JOAG. JOAG is a phenomenal practical leadership opportunity for every junior officer. I am very glad I began my Corps leadership engagement with JOAG!"

To learn more about JOAG and the roles senior officers or civilian supervisors can have in promoting JOAG and helping to develop a strong corps of junior officers, contact CAPT Newman at sara_newman@nps.gov

For more information,
visit JOAG's website at

<https://dcp.psc.gov/osg/JOAG/>

You can also check JOAG
out on Social Media!

JOAG (@PHS_JOAG)



www.facebook.com/groups/usphs.ioag



Why a Senior Officer or Civilian Supervisor Should Care About JOAG



The Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG) is a chartered group of the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps (Corps) dedicated to serving the needs of junior officers. JOAG provides advice and consultation to the Surgeon General and other entities on the interests and concerns of junior officers, and serves as a resource and support network for all junior officers. Any junior officer (LCDR/O-4 and below) is encouraged to participate in JOAG, whether through engagement with a JOAG committee or by availing themselves of JOAG's professional development or community service activities.

We cordially request senior officers and civilians supervising junior officers to support JOAG because it can help junior officers in their professional development, leadership and other skills that, in turn, help them succeed in their positions. In contrast to the high pressure and consequential nature of many federal agency jobs, JOAG offers a way for junior officers to learn leadership and collaboration skills in a low-pressure environment where mistakes can be made without dire consequences and the emphasis is on growth.

Do your part to help strengthen the leadership, stature, and unity of the Corps by informing junior officers about JOAG and the resources and opportunities it provides!

Job Shadowing

One way senior officers can become directly involved with JOAG is through its Job Shadowing Program, a professional career development and exploration activity where junior officers are paired with senior officers in the junior officer's field of interest. Junior officers observe day-to-day activities of senior officers and senior officers offer their unique experience and insight to junior officers, helping to hone skills and strengthen bonds within and among federal agencies and the Public Health Service. To learn more about the program or sign up, visit <https://dcp.psc.gov/osg/JOAG/resources/jobshadowingprogram.aspx> or email JOAGjobshadowing@gmail.com.



Resources

As a resource for new officers, JOAG also provides an excellent way for junior officers to learn more about the Corps. JOAG's Listserv is a fantastic way to stay abreast of its many activities. Other JOAG resources include:

- JO Voice – Every other month, junior officers submit questions pertaining to a specific topic. These questions are answered by subject matter experts during JOAG's bimonthly general meetings.
- Junior Officer Chronicles – JOAG's quarterly journal
- Journeyman Speaker Series – Junior officers learn about a wide range of timely topics presented by an expert every other month.
- Leadership Book Clubs – Junior officers learn about leadership and discuss its challenges through guided sessions.
- Tip of the Month – A resource focusing on personal development, such as coping with stress and the characteristics of a great mentor.

Esprit de Corps

If you serve in an area with few other officers, junior officer engagement in JOAG can be the link to the Corps that gives them a sense of belonging and helps them better understand that they are part of something bigger than just what happens at their immediate duty station. Some of the ways JOAG serves as a support network to junior officers include:

- Peer-to-Peer Network – Newer junior officers are paired with seasoned junior officers serve as mentors to ease the transition into the Corps
- Meet & Greets – Organized throughout the country in order to get local officers together to build a greater sense of community within the Corps.
- Community service opportunities – Help support the National Prevention Strategy and other initiatives of the Surgeon General while working to integrate the Corps into communities and local networks.

