United States Public Health Service (USPHS)

Junior Officer Advisory Group (JOAG)

FY 2021 Accomplishments





Accomplishments
Report
FY 2021

FY 2021 Senior Advisor and Executive Committee

Position	Officer	Category	Agency/OPDIV
Senior Advisor	CAPT Mike Long	Pharmacy	ВОР
Chair	LCDR Beth Wittry	EHO	CDC
Vice-Chair	LCDR Laura Annetta	EHO	CDC
Chair-Elect	LCDR Stephanie Mros	Nurse	DHS/ICE
Executive Co-Secretary	LCDR Shamika Brooks	Pharmacy	FDA
Executive Co-Secretary	LCDR Michael Wandersee	ENG	FWS
Operations Liaison	LCDR Nazia Rahman	Scientist	DoD





Voting Membership

Officer	Category	Agency/OPDIV
LCDR Rovigel Gelviro	Pharmacy	IHS
CDR Neal Kimble	HSO	ВОР
LCDR Shondelle Wilson-Frederick	Scientist	CMS
LT Sarah Lyrata	Therapist	ВОР
LCDR Nicole Pascua	HSO	SAMHSA
LCDR Jenna Cope	Dietitian	HRSA
LCDR Rachel Rachuba	Dental	USCG
LCDR Emily Winans	Pharmacy	ICE
LCDR Colin Smith	Physician	IHS
LCDR Gwendolyn Hudson	Scientist	ICE
LCDR Andrea Cote	Veterinarian	USDA
LCDR Christine Lloyd	EHO	EPA
LCDR Michelle Nielsen	Pharmacy	IHS
LCDR Sandra Carpio	EHO	ASPR
LCDR Mouhamed Halwani	HSO	FDA
LCDR Daniel Bordt	Therapist	ВОР

Goal 1. Provide advice and consultation to the Surgeon General and other Corps entities on issues affecting junior officers (JOs)



Provided consultation to CCHQ and OSG regarding promotion changes, community engagement, training, readiness, and deployments



Released over 15 publications to provide recommendations, policy guidance, and share experiences with 3,000 JOs



Provided 5+ webinars (via Koop Seminar and Journey Speaker Series) to 500+ officers to promote officership and increase readiness. Topics included: JOAG leadership opportunities; COVID-19 mission lessons learned; health equity focusing on water access; and financial independence



Engaged 50+ JOs to enhance JOAG initiatives, improve operations, and identify JO concerns



Maintained New Officer Guide to orient JOs to PHS; the resource is utilized by all Professional Advisory Committees

Goal 2. Support the Surgeon General's priorities



Organized two Holiday Survivor
Challenges and 6+ virtual 5ks to
encourage officer wellness; 250+ JOs
benefited from increased physical activity
and healthier diets



Selected four award winners (i.e., Koop, Carmona, Excellence, and JOY) to feature outstanding officers pushing the SG priorities forward through national public health impacts



Compiled resiliency packet and highlighted JO deployment efforts to increase awareness and deployment readiness among 3,000 JOs



Directed dissemination of COVID-19 prevention strategies to 3,000 JOs through CDC-hosted webinar, articles, announcements, and seminar series.



Collaborated with BCOAG to decrease COVID vaccine hesitancy through the "Why I Vaccinate" campaign; published four newsletters highlighting 22 officers' rationale for choosing to get vaccinated early in the pandemic



Hosted first Behavioral Health Webinar with the Physician PAC; boosted psychological flexibility of 180 JOs

Goal 3. Serve as a resource and support network for junior officers



Hosted first JOAG Virtual Symposium; provided 500 attendees with uniform updates, tips for deployment readiness, and information to empower JOs to increase their involvement and impact



Published 12+ tips to encourage officer growth and wellness (e.g., mental and emotional well-being, active living, healthy eating, and emerging public health threats)



Partnered with Dinner With a Captain to provide small-group mentoring to 100 JOs



Hosted nine virtual Meet & Greets to augment leadership and officership skills of 51 JOs



Published two *Cyber-Grams* **to inform** 3,000 JOs on new Commissioned Corps issuances and POMs



Provided 3,000 JOs with updated guidance on uniform wear; six resources shared through various platforms

Goal 4. Foster the development of junior officers



Matched 18 officer pairs, as part of the peer-to-peer network, to encourage professional growth and promote espirit-de-corps



Provided 187 leadership opportunities to foster growth and development of JOs; presented 299 LOAs and 284 COAs



Selected 13 new Voting Members (VM) from 26 applicants and nominated 9 VMs for Special Assignment Awards



Facilitated four Transition Assistance Program seminars; Connect 142 officers to JOAG network and resources



Provided information, guidance, and advice to 3,000 JOs through publication of three *Senior Advisor Messages*



Delivered leadership training to over 300 JOs; featured three senior and junior officer teams to present timely and relevant leadership topics

Goal 5. Increase visibility of the Commissioned Corps



Leveraged social media to increase the visibility of the Commissioned Corps; 3.32% increase in active Facebook members, 246 Instagram followers, and

27,569 Twitter Impressions



Increased Facebook activity on the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service page by over 150% during JOAG's August social media takeover



Published the inaugural Public Health Champions Publication, highlighting three JOs who implemented public health initiatives to positively impact their communities



Engaged in website modernization efforts to increase access to JOAG
resources and improve the public-facing
website aesthetics



Collaborated with the U.S. Navy to guide their establishment of a JO council



Organized meeting with U.S. Navy and CCHQ to promote interservice collaboration