



## Social Work Professional Advisory Group

### General Meeting Minutes

19 December 1300-1400 HRS EST

Conference Dial in: (866) 803-2146; Passcode: 1511890#

- I. Welcome/Attendance
- II. (12/19/19) Minutes Review (1<sup>st</sup> Motion by LCDR Lombardo; 2<sup>nd</sup> Motion by CDR Felder)
- III. SWPAG Chair
  - **Welcome and Priorities 2020:** CDR Booker thanked everyone for their patience in the New Year while everything is becoming settled. CDR Booker discussed her priorities for 2020 which are:
    - Increase participation in both SWPAG and HSPAC: This will increase social worker's visibility in USPHS and let our leadership understand the depth and variety our skills that Social Workers bring to the table. The same people have been participating and there is a desire for fresh blood and energy. Encourage a co-worker, friend to come on the calls and become involved!
    - Gather information and iron out a solid plan for those who need clinical hours.
    - Ensure SWPAG is in line with HSPAC policies and practices, to include the Surgeon General's initiatives.
    - Continue to focus on Social Worker wellness/education and readiness.
    - Recognize our members hard work and longevity.
    - Strengthen our treasury and fundraising.
  - **HSPAC Awards:** CDR Booker encouraged participation in the awards as there has been a decline in participation. It is a good way to recognized colleagues and it is great for your career.

- **New Policies Regarding Clinical Hours:** CDR Booker reported that on December 31, 2019, the policy regarding readiness standard hours was released. The requirement is for 80 clinical hours for those in clinical roles and the SWPAG will help with and support SWs in attaining these hours.
- CDR Booker highlighted that in the most recent SWPAG weekly announcements, the DOD is actively recruiting SWs for jobs.

#### IV. SubGroup Reports

#### V. General Membership Discussion/Questions

- LCDR Worrell-Oriola asked if clinical hours are for all SWs irrespective of special pay or those in a clinical role. CAPT Kelly responded that the clinical hours are about deployment roles and if you are being deployed in a clinical capacity, you need to have the clinical hours. It is not tied to being a Board Certified Diplomate (BCD).
- It was said that the clinical hours policy date of June 1<sup>st</sup> is for pharmacists and other disciplines with special pay. The SW deadline for obtaining the clinical hours is December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- LT Karber asked about private practice hours being counted. CAPT Kelly responded that the ethics officer who signed the HHS 520 can sign for the clinical hours as well.
- LCDR Worrell-Oriola asked CAPT Kelly if she would be willing to do a short presentation on the clinical hours requirement and LCDR Worrell-Oriola will work on arranging this.
- LCDR Worrell-Oriola inquired into if practice hours can be completed during TOD. CAPT Kelly responded that the 7085 form gives space for practice hours during TOD and it allows 8 hours a month, 4 hours every other week and requires supervisory approval.

NOTE: Please email your attendance to Executive Secretary Phillip at [Janelle.phillip@ice.dhs.gov](mailto:Janelle.phillip@ice.dhs.gov)

## OPERATIONS




<p><b>Communications</b>  <i>Chair:</i> LCDR Lorener Brayboy   <i>Co-Chair:</i>          LCDR Mark Durham</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LT Phillip gave the update for the subgroup that they are working to increase visibility on FB and with the Newsletter. CDR Booker informed and reminded everyone that there is a FB SWPAG page.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Awards</b>  <i>Chair:</i> CDR Kymberly Spady-Grove   <i>Co-Chair:</i>          CDR Preston Shumaker</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDR Spady-Grove reported that the announcement for the 2020 SR and Jr. Social Worker of the Year will be sent out in the upcoming weeks. Any questions, please contact CDRs Spady-Grove and Shumaker.</li> <li>• They will be meeting on Friday, January 24, 2020 @ 1300.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Stakeholder &amp; Community Engagement</b>  <i>Chair:</i> LCDR Monique Worrell-Oriola   <i>Co-Chair:</i> CDR Holly Berilla (on leave)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As part of the 2020 Social Work Professional Advisory Group (SWPAG) self-care/wellness initiative, the SWPAG will be providing one to two-hour webinars to PHS Corps social work officers and civilian counterparts on a quarterly basis. The webinars will cover topics related to clinician self-care, health promotion, and wellness and will include expert presenters, including peers.</li> <li>• To support the initiative, CDR Berilla and LCDR Worrell are requesting officer input on topics and volunteers to present on self-care and wellness topics to the SWPAG and federal civilian counterparts on a quarterly basis.</li> <li>• This subgroup is looking for volunteers.</li> </ul>

## OFFICER SUPPORT

<p><b>Training, Education, and Mentorship</b>  <i>Chair:</i>          LCDR Monique Richards   <i>Co-Chairs:</i>          CDR Kimberley Jones (Mentoring)          LT Candice Karber (Training and Education)</p>	<p><b>Training and Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LT Karber reported that they are hosting 2 free continuing education webinars through the VA/DOD/USPHS Training Consortium. Information is forthcoming.</li> </ul> <p><b>Mentoring</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDR Jones reported that mentoring will feature a “Mentoring Corner” in SWPAG Newsletter.</li> <li>• Mentoring will assess needs and collaborate with HSPAC Mentoring Subcommittee to develop Mentoring Competencies Pilot (more information to follow) with new officers. They are looking for mentoring resources.</li> <li>• Mentoring will assess need and develop Mentoring Circles to augment Officer Support in currently established PHS Mentor-Mentee relationships (more information to follow).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Readiness</b>  <i>Chair:</i> LT Desirrae Harris (on leave)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No report</li> </ul>

<p><i>Co-Chair:</i> CDR Kari Harris</p>	
<p><b>Data and Evaluation</b> <i>Chair:</i> CDR Allah-Fard Sharrieff</p> <p><i>Co-Chair:</i> CDR Alysa Ward</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDR Booker reported that she has asked this subgroup to construct a survey that will come out in January or February to find out how many SWs need to obtain clinical hours to meet the new requirements.</li> </ul>

## MANAGEMENT

<p><b>Policy</b> <i>Chair:</i> CDR Stephanie Felder</p> <p><i>Co-Chair:</i> CAPT Karen Hearod</p> <p> <b>Appointment Standards</b> <i>Team Lead:</i> LCDR Mark Durham (on leave) CDR Tina Bryant (on leave)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDR Felder thanked CAPT Bolduc for his prior leadership and met with him for an overview of the committee. They will continue to work on the current initiatives of: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Social Work special pay</li> <li>2. Launching a social work internship pilot in one or more agencies</li> <li>3. Establishing a directory of opportunities for clinical hours (for Officers in non-clinical billets who need them for deployment roles or BCD)</li> <li>4. Appointment Standard recommendation related to mental health</li> <li>5. Working collaboratively with the HSPAC Policy Subcommittee on initiatives affecting HSO Officers in the Corps</li> </ol> </li> <li>• CDR Felder will reach out to the group members and confirm continued interest in the group.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Administrative Management</b> <i>Chair:</i> CDR Cole Weeks <i>Co-Chair:</i> <b>VACANT</b></p> <p> <b>Membership</b> <i>Team Lead:</i> CDR LaMar Henderson</p> <p> <b>Treasurer/Coin Sales</b> <i>Team Leads:</i> CDR Teresa Baptiste CDR Christine Nementi</p>	<p><b>Membership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDR Weeks reported that there were 4 new SW CAD in the last OBC – 2 at IHS and 2 at DOD. Their workgroup will connect with the new officers to engage them in the SWPAG.</li> <li>• SWPAG Roster: CDR Christine Nemeti POC. Please send roster updates to CDR Nemeti, a general roster update announcement will be distributed in February.</li> </ul> <p><b>Treasurer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDR Teresa Baptiste POC. Please be on the lookout for a SWPAG treasury survey to gauge interest and future direction of the Treasury.</li> </ul>

## AdHOC SUBGROUP

<p><b>Recruitment and Retention</b> <i>Chair:</i> LCDR Robert VanMeir</p> <p><i>Co-Chair:</i> LCDR Tanya Barragan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>No report</b></li> </ul>
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**Meeting Adjourned at 1532 EST**

**ATTENDANCE**

CDR Tricia Booker	LCDR Monique Worrell-Oriola	CDR Kimberley Jones	LT Candice Karber
CDR Kymberly Spady-Grove	CDR Stephanie Felder	CDR Cole Week	CDR Christine Nemeti
CAPT Kristin Kelly	LT Tamika Finch-Hall	CAPT Todd Lennon	CDR Alysa Jackson
LCDR Kimberly Calvery	LT Dierdra Oretade-Branch	CDR Kari Harris	LT Janelle Phillip