



The Fulcrum

Note from DHPAG Chair

LCDR Emily Warnstadt

2021 Issue II - Summer



Fall season has started. I know we were hopeful that COVID would be winding down, however, it appears to be ramping up. With that, you may feel powerless at times. When you can't control what is happening around you, challenge yourself to control the way you respond to what is happening; that is where your power is.

I wanted to congratulate our Candace M. Jones awardee LCDR Jennifer Curtis and Jr. Dental Hygienist of the year awardee LCDR Keasha

Myrick. Both are stellar officers that are active in the PAG and represent us well.

There will be several PAG Subgroup Chair positions available for 2022. Also, the Chair-Elect and Executive Secretary positions will be available.

Nominations will start being accepted in September. This is an excellent opportunity to develop and demonstrate leadership skills, network, and support the PHS.

Thank you for everyone's hard work this year!

LCDR Emily Warnstadt

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[DHPAG 2021 Award Winners](#) LCDR Chennault

*** New * Article Submission Forms**

New Officer Spotlight

Awards

2021 Candace M Jones Award
2021 Jr Dental Hygienist of the Year Award

Save the Date

Continuing Education

Co-Editors:

LCDR Marie-Elena C. Puleo
LCDR Keasha Myrick
LCDR Tanya Selling

2021 DHPAG EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Chair	LCDR Emily Warnstadt	253-552-4970	Emily.D.Warnstadt@ice.dhs.gov
Chair Elect	LCDR Cynthia Chennault	301-443-6691	CChennault@hrsa.gov
Secretary	LCDR Olivia Barrow	907-463-4047	olivab@searhc.org

Operations

Communications Chair	LCDR Marie-Elena Puleo (Lana)	845-220-2122 x1101	marie- elena.puleo@fda.hhs.gov
<i>Co-Chair</i>	LCDR Keasha Myrick	405-951-3826	Keasha.Myrick@ihs.gov
Member/Co-Editor	LCDR Tanya Selling	520-868-8455	Tanya.L.Selling@ice.dhs.gov
Awards Chair	LT Theresa Chennault	918-342-6400	Theresa.Chennault@ihs.gov
<i>Co-Chair</i>	LCDR Olivia Barrow	907-463-4047	olivab@searhc.org
Stakeholder & Community Engagement Co-Chair	LCDR Tiffany Smith	520-464-3591	Tiffany.H.Smith@ice.dhs.gov
<i>Co-Chair</i>	LCDR Charles Brucklier	202-389-2999	Charles.J.Brucklier@ice.dhs.gov

Officer Support

Recruitment Chair (Ad Hoc)	LCDR Doretha M Wilson	336-333-5419; 103	Doretha.Wilson@fda.hhs.gov
<i>Co-Chair</i>	LCDR Miranda Shropshire-Nelson	301-796-8378	MirandaNelson@fda.hhs.gov
Training, Education & Mentorship Chair	LCDR Paula M. Arango	908-282-5774	Paula.M.Arango@ice.dhs.gov
<i>Co-Chair</i>	CAPT Mylene Santulan	982-729-8896	Mylene.Santulan@fdihb.org
Technical Readiness Chair	CDR Amy Strain	214-767-3048	astrain@hrsa.gov
<i>Co-Chair</i>	LCDR Tanya Selling	520-868-8455	Tanya.L.Selling@ice.dhs.gov
Data & Evaluation Chair	LCDR Suzanne Redmon	843-746-2990 EXT 21	Suzanne.Redmon@fda.hhs.gov
<i>Co-Chair</i>	LT Natasha S. Bennett	601-630-5443	nsbennett@bop.gov

Management

Policy Chair	LCDR Cynthia Chennault	301-443-6691	CChennault@hrsa.gov
<i>Co-Chair</i>	LCDR Daniel Rector		Daniel.Rector@cms.hhs.gov
Administrative Chair	LCDR Diane Weidley	813-695-5052	Diane.R.Weidley@ice.dhs.gov
<i>Co-Chair</i>	LT Johnna Bleem	716-846-6307	Johnna.bleem@fda.hhs.gov

SUBGROUP CORNER

COMMUNICATIONS SUBGROUP

WANTED ARTICLES FOR NEWSLETTERS:

A day in the life of a RDH
Alternative Career Paths
Upcoming Conferences
Volunteer Opportunities and Engagement
Community Events
Tips for Successful PCS
Deployment Experience
Kudos for promotions and awards

What do you want to see in the Newsletter?

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS:

Newsletter I – Spring: 4/23/2021
Newsletter II – Summer: 8/27/2021
Newsletter III – Fall: 11/26/2021

All: Ensure to utilize the “2021 DHPAG Newsletter Submission Request Form” going forward for articles, award notifications, notification of new officers etc.

FORM: The form has been uploaded and a link has been placed on our DHPAG website under the Newsletter Section, which can be accessed below:

<https://dcp.psc.gov/OSG/hso/pags-dhpag-newsletters.aspx>

AWARDS SUBGROUP

- Congratulations to the 2021 Candace Jones Award winner, LCDR Jennifer Curtis, and the Junior Dental Hygienist of the Year award, LCDR Keasha Myrick. See Article.

STAKEHOLDER & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SUBGROUP

Nothing to report at this time.

TRAINING, EDUCATION & MENTORSHIP SUBGROUP

DENTAL RESOURCES AND CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

CE Credits: Available CE Credits

- <https://www.colgateoralhealthnetwork.com/webinar/?cwF=1&fr=all-formats>
- <http://www.adha.org/continuing-education>
- <https://www.dentalcare.com/en-us/professional-education/ce-course/>
- <https://dentalacademyofce.com/dace/courses.aspx?s=Dental%2520Hygienist&c=Hygiene>
- <https://dimensionsofdentalhygiene.com/ce/>
- <https://www.hu-friedy.com/education/continuing-education-classes>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention

- <http://www.cdc.gov/oralhealth/>

Health Resources and Services Administration

- <https://www.hrsa.gov/oral-health/index.html>

Indian Health Service Early Childhood Caries Initiative

- <https://www.ihs.gov/doh/index.cfm?fuseaction=ecc.materials>

National Board of Public Health Examiners

- <https://www.nbphe.org/CPH> - Certified Public Health

National Commission on Correctional Health Care

- <https://www.ncchc.org/CCHP-exam> - Certified Correctional Health Professional

TECHNICAL READINESS SUBGROUP

Nothing to report at this time.

ADMINISTRATION SUBGROUP

Nothing to report at this time.

DATA & EVALUATION SUBGROUP

Nothing to report at this time.

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SUBGROUP CORNER

RECRUITMENT SUBGROUP

Nothing to report at this time.

POLICY SUBGROUP

Nothing to report at this time.

Western New York COA Activities

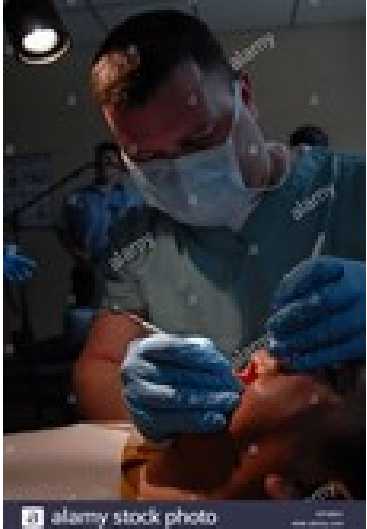
LCDR Charles J Brucklier MHCM, RDH



As the Western New York COA Treasurer/Esprit de Corps Lead, I was asked to develop a new coin and other WNYCOA merchandise. I reached out to a few companies managed by military veterans that create custom coins. I emailed members of our local branch requesting conceptual ideas for the coin. Attached are some photos of the draft markup of the custom challenge coins.

The Western New York (WNY) COA plans to participate in several community events/activities. These events include the Special Olympics, volunteering at homeless shelters and food banks to distribute meals to those in need, and possibly at RAM missions. The WNYCOA would like to make an impact in Western New York area by increasing the visibility of the USPHS Commissioned Corps through actively contributing to and addressing local community needs.

I believe it would be very beneficial to work collaboratively with the DHPAG's Stakeholder & Community Engagement Subgroup and the WNYCOA, both groups can work synergistically and reach set goals to improve the overall health of the communities we live in.



alamy stock photo

DHPAG 2021 Award Winners

LCDR Theresa Chennault

Congratulations to our 2021 DHPAG award winners! The Candace Jones Award went to LCDR Jennifer Curtis and the Junior Dental Hygienist of the Year award went to LCDR Keasha Myrick. The competition was tough this year and we had 2 Candace Jones applicants and 6 Junior Dental Hygienist of the Year applicants. Both award winners have already received their plaques and the DHPAG award website has been updated. I would encourage everyone to start thinking about their accomplishments and leadership roles and nominate yourself for the 2022 award cycle. You never know the possibilities unless you try. The winners bio's are below. Thank you for all you do day in and day out.

2021 Candace Jones Award Recipient:



LCDR Jennifer Curtis has served the Nation as a U.S. Public Health Service Officer since October 16, 2006, and the Indian Health Service Since September 2005. LCDR Curtis is currently serving in the Covid drive through clinic and routinely serves as the Claremore Indian Hospital's Advanced Clinical and Community Dental Hygienist. During her career as a U.S. Public Health Service Officer, LCDR Curtis has also served as a Corporate Compliance Officer, Privacy Officer, and Acting Patient Advocate. LCDR Curtis has had the opportunity to provide dental services in remote underserved locations throughout our Nation and with the U.S. Navy in South America. LCDR Curtis is the United States Public Health Service 2020 Dental Hygiene Professional Advisory Group Chair. LCDR Curtis serves as the Secretary and CDE Chair of the Indian Health Service Dental Hygiene Executive Committee and the Dental Hygiene Representative for the Field Advisory Committee (FAC) of the National Oral Health Council (NOHC).

LCDR Curtis holds a Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene from the University of Oklahoma and a Master of Science in Health Administration from Southern California Health Science Independence University.

2021 Junior Dental Hygienist of the Year Award Recipient:

LCDR Keasha Myrick has fulfilled her role as a registered dental hygienist (RDH) for over 17 years within underserved populations. A native of Georgia, she received her Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene from Clayton State and University in Morrow, GA and Doctorate of Health Science from Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, FL. LCDR Myrick joined Indian Health Service (IHS) in December 2015 at Lawton Indian Hospital dental clinic in Lawton, Oklahoma as RDH clinician, team lead. While there, LCDR Myrick co-led two national dental initiatives and implemented a high-quality water system which is engineered to prevent bacteria formation and biofilm growth and eliminate contaminated water lines within six direct service dental facilities.

Later promoted to Operations Director of Clinical and Preventive Dental Support Center- Oklahoma City Area while being commissioned to U.S. Public Health Services

Commissioned Corps (USPHS) in September 2017, LCDR Myrick currently assists and supports over 44 dental facilities in Oklahoma City Area and an additional 58 dental facilities to include Bemidji and Great Plains Areas, a combination of approximately 1100 dental staff. One of her major sought out accomplishments was to see her proposed new Title 38 pay table salary increase for IHS RDH civilian colleagues of approximately 13% nationwide and 40% within Oklahoma City Area approved in November 2020.



LCDR Myrick has led and co-led several subgroup committees within HSPAC, DHPAG, JOAG, COA, formerly RDF4 deployment team, IHS Workforce groups & Coalitions, and four IHS Vaccine Taskforce groups. She has served as Aide-de-Camp for several RADM's (Retired Sylvia Trent-Adams, Michael Weahkee, Retired Kevin Meeks, and Travis Watts). She values mentoring others and being mentored by USPHS officers within Commissioned Corps categories which is her self-imposed benchmarks.

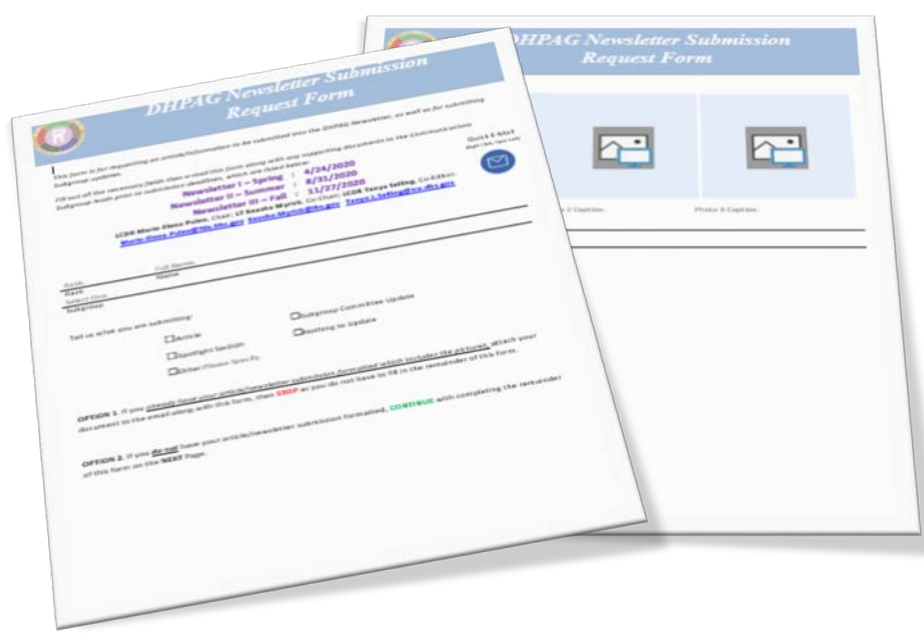


Newsletter Submission Request

The DHPAG Communications Subgroup has a new form!

DHPAG Newsletter Submission Request Form

Please start utilizing this form for **2021** Newsletter Submissions, Officer Spotlight, DHPAG Officer Career Paths, Subgroup Updates including nothing to report!
Click below to be directed to the new form as well as other documents!



* After clicking picture above, it will open the PDF attachment window on the left, click and download the attachment to get the form *

Other Documents Included:

DHPAG New Officer Questionnaire: Know a new officer? Are you a new Officer yourself? Fill out one of these questionnaire forms and submit with the 2021 DHPAG Newsletter Submission Request Form.

DHPAG Officer Career Paths Questionnaire: For LCDR's and Senior Officers; Do you have a career experience you would like to share with other officers and give advise? Fill out one of these questionnaires and submit with the 2021 DHPAG Newsletter Submission request form.

Submission Form may also be found the DHPAG website under the Newsletter Section at:
<https://dcp.psc.gov/OSG/hso/pags-dhpag-newsletters.aspx>

New Officer SPOTLIGHT

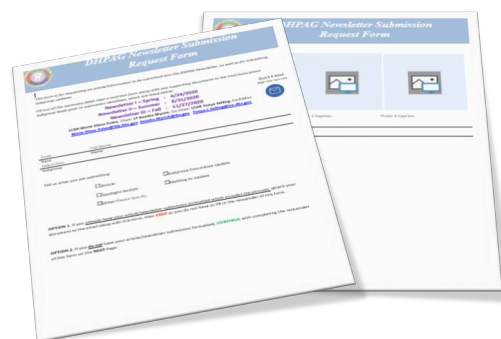
DHPAG

Sorry...

There is no new information regarding new PHS RDH Officers for this newsletter.



If you know of and have any contact information regarding new PHS RDH Officers, **Please submit the Subgroup Submission Form**



Awards

Congratulations to:

LCDR Jennifer Curtis

on receiving the

Candace M. Jones Award
2021

The Candace M. Jones Dental Hygienist of the Year Award is presented annually to a dental hygienist who has demonstrated accomplishments in career progression, contributions to the agency as demonstrated by awards, leadership, and continued learning and education.

Being a recipient of this award signifies that the individual has made a significant contribution in the advancement of the nation's oral health and to the advancement of dental public health. In addition that they have demonstrated leadership in their work and serve as a role model to others.

This award was named in honor of CAPT Candace Jones for her commitment to improving the oral health of underserved populations and her dedication to the USPHS. CAPT Jones joined the USPHS in 1988 and has served in the Indian Health Service with a short detail to the Health Resources and Services Administration. CAPT Jones was instrumental in developing the dental hygiene billets and including dental hygienists as part of the Health Services category. She is a past Chair of the HS-PAC and the Council on Public Health for the American Dental Hygienists' Association and a Past President of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry



Awards
Congratulations to:

LCDR Keasha Myrick

on receiving the

*Junior Dental Hygienist
of the Year Award
2021*

This award is granted annually to any Commissioned Corps dental hygienist at the rank of O-4 and below who demonstrates a significant contribution to the advancement of oral health. The awards are evaluated for excellence in the core dental hygiene functions: clinical, education, advocacy, and administration or leadership.

Save the Date 2021

Welcome, everyone to the **SAVE the DATE** section! This section of the newsletter will provide upcoming dental conferences and seminars to attend. Please submit any dental conferences and seminars to be included in newsletters and website that may not be listed below. Also, let us know which event you are attending for a meet n greet session! See you there!!!

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<i>2021 NOHC - Virtual</i>						

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<i>ADHA Live & Online</i>						

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<i>2021 Under One Roof Live & Online</i>						

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Event Passed.
Did you attend?
Submit an Article on
how it Went!

IN-PERSON AND ONLINE

ATLANTA, GA | MARCH 12-13, 2021
1000 Thomas F. Brown Dental Meeting


Event Passed.
Did you attend?
Submit an Article on how it Went!

Frídays & Saturdays April 16-30, 2021
Live Streaming on Frídays



POSTPONED

USPHS
SCIENTIFIC & TRAINING
SYMPOSIUM
June 21-24, 2021
Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel



Event Passed.
Did you attend?
Submit an Article on
how it Went!

ADHA 2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
FRIDAY, JUNE 20
PHOENIX, ARIZONA
ADHA 2021 ANNUAL CONFERENCE
MONDAY, JUNE 28 – WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30



Event Passed.
Did you attend?
Submit an Article on
how it Went!

RDH • UnderOneRoof.
Online *Extended*
JULY 31, 2021

2022 Upcoming Events



AMSUS
The Society of Federal Health Professionals

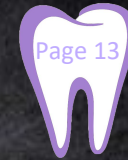
**130th AMSUS
Annual Meeting**

Save the Date: February 7-11, 2022
Hybrid planned: In-Person in Maryland and Virtual



**USPHS
SCIENTIFIC & TRAINING
SYMPOSIUM**
May 23-27, 2022
Renaissance Phoenix Glendale Hotel
#USPHS2022

Continuing Education



Free: <https://www.dentalcare.com/en-us>

Free: <http://vivalearning.com/>

Certifications

Certified Correctional Health Professional (CCHP):

<http://www.ncchc.org/cchp>