



PHPAG End of Year Newsletter



December 2018

USPHS PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONAL ADVISORY GROUP

Issue 7

Reflections from the 2018 PHPAG Chair

Witnessing the commitment of PHPAG officers over the past year has been both exciting and refreshing. Our officers have volunteered their time to support the career development and progression needs of fellow officers both within and outside of our PAG, all while meeting the demands of their agencies and responding to domestic and international emergencies.

During my time as PHPAG Chair, we identified a focus of streamlining communication with the use of MAX.gov. In addition, we supported the rollout of the Surgeon General’s initiative to combat the opioid epidemic with the creation of the PHPAG/PACE Health Educator Workgroup and the Advanced Readiness Pilot.

Communication:

We streamlined communication among PHPAG leadership and officers with MAX.gov. Specifically, I would like to thank LCDR Jaclyn Ruiz and LCDR Kimberley Ricketts for their instrumental support over the past year in the development and rollout of our MAX.gov webpage. The PHPAG subgroups, teams, leadership, and the Prevention through Active Community Engagement (PACE) Health Educator Workgroup now all have their own webpages. Monthly meeting agendas and minutes are now posted on MAX.gov and accessible to all officers.

Additionally, historical documents have been transitioned to MAX.gov and an accomplishments document was created to track our success as a PAG. All of this hard work has laid the foundation for the future success of PHPAG. Overall, MAX.gov has created efficiency in having all PHPAG documentation housed in one place and resulted in the significant decline in email communication among PHPAG leadership and officers.

PHPAG/PACE Health Educator Workgroup:

PHPAG has highlighted the value of health educators to PHS through their support of the Surgeon General’s initiative to combat the opioid epidemic. PHPAG also developed a workgroup in August 2017 to assist PACE with the review and development of middle school and high school lesson plans and curricula at the request of the Chief Professional Officer (CPO) and HSPAC Chair. The lesson plans and curricula rolled out nationwide in November 2018. Over the past 16 months, PHPAG has created a health educator workgroup and formalized an agreement with PACE through an executed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU was then extended to all PAGs due to PHPAG’s work and recognition from the HSPAC Chair and CPO. Special thanks to the workgroup leadership, headed by CAPT Dawn Arlotta, CAPT Matthew Weinburke, CDR Michael Ahmadi, LCDR Tracy Tilghman, LCDR Camille Mitchell, and LT Jeffrey Walker.



LCDR Jennifer Clements
2018 PHPAG Chair

In this issue:

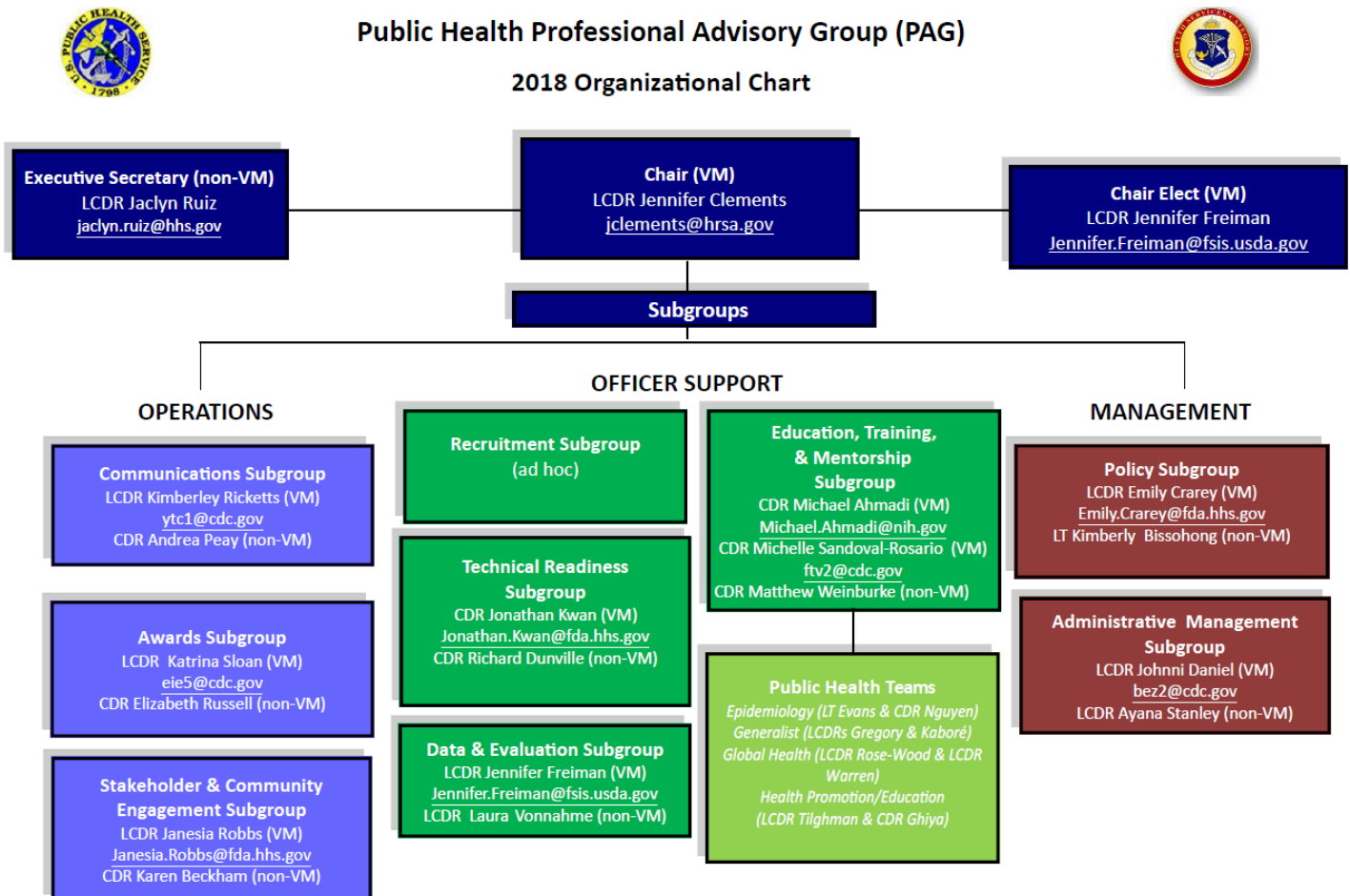
Reflections from the 2018 PHPAG Chair	1
2018 USPHS Scientific & Training Symposium	3
Subgroup Updates	4
Public Health Team Updates	12
2019 Executive Committee and Voting Members	16
Message from 2019 PHPAG Chair	17
Announcements	18

Reflections from 2018 PHAG Chair (cont'd)

Advanced Readiness Pilot:

PHPAG highlighted its strength in diverse skillsets and was selected by the HSPAC Technical Readiness Subcommittee to participate in the advanced readiness pilot (ARP) in 2018. Specifically, PHPAG was selected as the non-clinical PAG and the Physician Assistant PAG (PAPAG) was selected as the clinical PAG. The pilot launched in March 2018 and has enrolled 29 officers to date. I would like to thank CDR Jonathan Kwan for his instrumental leadership in the development of the standard operating procedure (SOP) and support of PHPAG officers participating in this new program. In addition, CDR Kwan has strengthened PHPAG collaboration by working with CAPT Matthew Weinburke and CDR Michael Ahmadi of the Education, Training, and Mentorship (ETM) Subgroup to develop an SOP for the development criteria for discipline-specific continuing education credits for the pilot.

In summary, this has been an action packed year! Many thanks go out to the dedicated PHPAG leadership team: CAPT Weinburke; CDRs Ahmadi, Beckham, Dunville, Ghiya, Jones, Kwan, Nguyen, Peay, Russell, and Sandoval-Rosario; LCDRs Bissohong, Crarey, Daniel, Freiman, Gregory, Kaboré, Mitchell, Ricketts, Robbs, Rose-Wood, Ruiz, Sloan, Stanley, Tilghman, Vonnahme and Warren; and LTs Evans (Davis), Goodwin (Hart), and Walker. In addition, I would like to thank CDR Monique Salter for her unwavering support and dedication to our PAG. We should all be extremely proud of our accomplishments this year. As I pass the baton to our capable incoming Chair, LCDR Jennifer Freiman, I must say, it has been an honor to serve as the 2018 PHPAG Chair.



Visit the [PHPAG page](#) on the HSPAC webpage to learn more about PHPAG.

2018 USPHS Scientific & Training Symposium



PHPAG officers pose for a group photo with 2018 PHPAG Chair, LCDR Jennifer Clements (Center).



CDR Michael Ahmadi, LCDR Charlotte Kaboré, CDR Neelam Ghiya, and CAPT Matthew Weinburke present on the value of public health credentialing.



Officers relax during the 2018 PHPAG social in Dallas, TX.



Officers enjoy an evening of networking and fun at the social.



Multidisciplinary in Approach, Connected by Service, Advancing Public Health
#WeAreCorpsSTRONG

Subgroup Updates

Administrative Management Subgroup

Mission

To annually review and update the uniform PHPAG bylaws and standard operating procedures, solicit for new PHPAG members, manage the voting member nomination and selection process, and maintain the PHPAG listserv and official membership roster.

Accomplishments

- Implemented the new standard operating procedures (SOPs) template for the PHPAG, which included reviewing current SOPs for all subgroups and teams and ensuring alignment with HSPAC guidelines.
- Completed the solicitation and selection process for the new 2019 PHPAG voting members and the 2019 Chair-Elect.
- Updated and maintained the listserv to ensure PHPAG officers received timely updates and announcements.



LCDR Johnni Daniel
Chair



LCDR Ayana Stanley
Co-Chair

Communications Subgroup

Mission

To provide effective, accurate, and up-to-date information to PHPAG and HSPAC. The subgroup aims to increase the visibility of the PHPAG by developing and distributing marketing materials to the listserv such as the weekly announcements, special announcements, and end of year newsletter. The subgroup is also responsible for updating the PHPAG section of the HSO website and updating the HSPAC calendar with PHPAG events as needed.

Accomplishments

As another successful, yet challenging, year of public health ends, we proudly reflect on the Communications Subgroup's work. In 2018, the Communications Subgroup:

- Updated the PHPAG brochure and flyer for distribution at events.
- Disseminated weekly and special announcements to the listserv.
- Developed the 2018 End of Year Newsletter.
- Fulfilled HSPAC website updates and newsletter requests.
- Updated the Max.gov page with organizational chart, PHPAG brochure, and flyer.
- Updated all PHPAG documents to ensure the use of the new standard terminology.



LCDR Kimberley Ricketts
Chair



CDR Andrea Peay
Co-Chair

Awards Subgroup

Mission

To carefully review nomination packages for PHPAG's Excellence in Leadership and Junior Officer of the Year awards by identifying two officers who went above and beyond in demonstrating the ability to protect, promote, and advance the health and safety of our nation.

Accomplishments

- Successfully completed the review of five nominations for the 2017-2018 award cycle.
- Awarded the PHPAG Excellence in Leadership Award and Junior Officer of the Year Award at the 2018 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium in Dallas, Texas. This year's award recipients were:
 - **CDR Elizabeth Russell – PHPAG Excellence in Leadership Award** *for outstanding accomplishments in the field of public health and for exceptional work toward the mission of the PHPAG.*
 - **LCDR Felicia Warren – PHPAG Junior Officer of the Year Award** *for exemplary commitment to the mission of the USPHS and for exceptional work toward the mission of the PHPAG.*
- Gathered and submitted the PHPAG's accomplishments for a Unit Commendation award nomination and established a workgroup within the subgroup to assist with this task for future award nominations.
- Reviewed and revised the PHPAG Award Subgroup's standard operating procedures.
- Enhanced scoring criteria and guidance documents to assist reviewers with appropriately scoring assigned applications.

The call for nominations for the 2018-2019 PHPAG awards will begin January 2019.



LCDR Katrina Sloan
Chair



CDR Elizabeth Russell
Co-Chair

Data and Evaluation Subgroup

Mission

To use analytics to guide PHPAG activities and support officers active in the PHPAG. The subgroup works with the Health Information Technology Professional Advisory Group (HITPAG) and HSPAC's Data Analytics Subcommittee to develop, disseminate, and analyze surveys and other data from PHPAG.

Accomplishments

- Designed a 2018 PHPAG member survey and analyzed results to inform the priorities and activities of the PHPAG subgroups and teams.
- Developed a one-page document to summarize survey findings and highlight ways the results are used to support officers in the PHPAG.
 - Survey findings indicated that officers preferred to deploy in their area of expertise and 79% of officers felt that they lacked the necessary training to serve in that role within the context of a PHS deployment. As a result, the Technical Readiness Subgroup started working with the Education, Training, and Mentorship Subgroup to develop trainings and webinars to address PHPAG officers' readiness needs.
 - 50% of respondents were interested in serving as a subject matter expert on a PHPAG sponsored panel or webinar. The Stakeholder and Community Engagement Subgroup continues to reach out to these officers to support panels and webinars on public health areas of interest to PHPAG members.
 - 34% of respondents indicated that they were not familiar with the annual awards or nomination process. The PHPAG provided additional resources on the awards and nomination process to all PHPAG officers.



LCDR Jennifer Freiman
Chair



LCDR Laura Vonnahme
Co-Chair

Policy Subgroup

Mission

To advance policy knowledge among PHPAG officers and to strengthen the Commissioned Corps' ability to identify and elevate specific policies impacting officers.

Accomplishments

- Implemented a new quarterly Policy Corner within the weekly PHPAG announcements. The Policy Corner provided updates to PHPAG officers on four new Commissioned Corps policies. Highlighting these policies broadened officers' knowledge of Blended Retirement, Conditions of Service, COERs, and Weight Management Plans.
- Created an anonymous feedback link for officers to submit questions, concerns, or suggestions to PHPAG leadership. As of October 2018, the Policy Subgroup had 97 unique visits to the feedback link and received seven responses. The responses were used to increase morale and provide feedback on PHPAG webinars.
- Coordinated a Policy in Public Health webinar on Systems Thinking for Collaboration and Strategic Change. The webinar was attended by 25 officers and featured presentations by Senior Policy Advisors from the CDC Office of the Associate Director for Policy and the Georgia Health Policy Center of Georgia State University.
- Established a community of volunteers with varying expertise and public health policy interests. The work of the Policy Subgroup members was integral to the PHPAG's ability to transition to a uniform structure and contribute to knowledge sharing with the HSPAC and fellow PAGs.



LCDR Emily Crarey
Chair



LT Kimberly Bissohong
Co-Chair

Stakeholder and Community Engagement Subgroup

Mission

To manage public health related activities within the community and foster relationships with professional organizations of interest to the PHPAG membership and identify opportunities for collaboration.

Accomplishments

- Hosted two webinars in collaboration with the American Public Health Association (APHA) and the Society for Public Health Education (SOPHE). More than 50 Health Services Officers participated.
- As a result of the SOPHE collaboration, the PHPAG Stakeholder and Community Engagement Subgroup will present a 60-minute session on USPHS Officers Leading the Way at the Society for Public Health Education 70th Annual Conference held March 27 – 29, 2019 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The session will focus on the Prevention through Active Community Engagement (PACE) Program and other USPHS programs that are leading the way.
- The PHPAG Stakeholder and Community Engagement Subgroup is continuing to work with SOPHE on an Opioid-related webinar and the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologist (CSTE) on potential collaborative activities.
- Appointed three liaisons from the Health Promotion Health Education and Epidemiology Collaboration teams to manage engagement activities with SOPHE and CSTE.



LCDR Janesia Robbs
Chair



CDR Karen Beckham
Co-Chair

Technical Readiness Subgroup

Mission

To serve as the primary source of discipline-specialty information and training on USPHS response and deployment roles for the PHPAG. The subgroup promotes and ensures discipline-specific technical readiness for deployments to PHPAG officers, by strengthening the quality and performance of PHPAG officers in the field. PHPAG disciplines include, but are not limited to, the following: General Public Health, Epidemiology, Health Promotion Health Education, Environmental Science, Public Health Administration, Biology, Biostatistics, Business Statistics, International Health, Mathematics, and Occupational Safety Public Health.

Accomplishments

- Developed and implemented the Advanced Readiness Pilot (ARP) Program in conjunction with the HSPAC Readiness Subcommittee, resulting in the recruitment of 29 PHPAG officers. Compiled feedback on the program process and submitted a draft to HSPAC Readiness Subcommittee for review.
- Collaborated with PHPAG's Epidemiology and Global Health Teams to develop and host a "brown bag" on three PHPAG officers' experiences during the 2017 Hurricane Harvey, Irma, and Maria deployments, reaching and educating over 60 officers and civilians.
- Collaborated with the other PAGs to identify non-discipline-specific response roles common across the HSPAC and developed position descriptions.
- Developed and streamlined a process and work flow with PHPAG's Education, Training & Mentorship (ETM) Subgroup to review and approve PHPAG webinars that may meet the technical readiness criteria to receive CE hours for the ARP.



CDR Johnathan Kwan
Chair



CDR Richard Dunville
Co-Chair

PHPAG/PACE Health Educator Workgroup

Mission

Created in 2017, the PHPAG Prevention through Community Engagement (PACE) Health Educator Workgroup provides subject matter expertise to the PACE Program to assist with the development and revision of their Opioid and other public health curricula. LCDR Camille Mitchell serves as the lead and LT Jeffrey Walker serves as the co-lead for this workgroup.

Accomplishments

- Spearheading this unique partnership, this collaboration resulted in a first ever HSPAC-wide Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with a PAC. PHPAG was identified as the only partner with this MOU.
- Executed a comprehensive review and modification of existing opioid lesson plans with specific focuses on student developmental levels, student and school needs, and broader objectives to address the national opioid and addiction public health crisis.
- Piloted and evaluated a systematic approach to rapid curriculum development and review.
- Provided PACE with completed curricula for middle and high school students, and is currently revising this information, based on feedback from the Surgeon General. The workgroup will continue this partnership of providing Health Education subject matter expertise to PACE in 2019.
- Updated the lesson plan templates, geared towards middle school students nationally, developed a draft evaluation template for the lessons, and provided recommendations for incorporating Operation Prevention curricula <https://www.operationprevention.com/>.



LCDR Camille Mitchell
Lead



LT Jeffrey Walker
Co-Lead

Education, Training & Mentorship Subgroup

The Education, Training & Mentorship (ETM) Subgroup is dedicated to supporting the discipline-specific continuing education, training and mentoring needs of public health officers to remain current in their disciplines. This work is carried out through the work of the following teams: Epidemiology, Generalists of Public Health, Global Health, and Health Promotion/Health Education. In addition, Peer to Peer (P2P) networking is available for officers of similar rank, background, and experience.



CDR Michael Ahmadi
Chair



CDR Michelle Sandoval-Rosario
Co-Chair



CDR Matthew Weinburke
Co-Chair

Peer-to-Peer Networking Program (P2P)

Mission

The Peer-to-Peer Networking Program (P2P) grooms officers for professional success. It connects officers as “buddies” based on their respective rank and job title to facilitate information exchange, professional advice and guidance. Suggested topics for participants in the P2P Networking Program include career development, promotion, COER, awards, personnel, deployment opportunities, officer support, and work-life balance.

Accomplishments

- In 2018, the P2P Networking Program extended an invitation for Captains to participate in the program. This peer relationship will serve as a resource for senior officers to connect regarding issues that are unique to them, including retirement and leadership opportunities.
- To date, the program has matched 80 officers, including two senior officers.



CDR Tonya Twyman
Lead



LCDR Daniel Bailey
Co-Lead

Public Health Team Updates

Epidemiology Collaboration (EpiC) Team

Mission

To provide resources and guidance to support Health Service Officers who either works as epidemiologists or are interested in epidemiology to develop and enhance their careers within the Commissioned Corps.

Accomplishments

- Increased Team membership from 25 to 27 members.
- Co-hosted a brown bag with the Technical Readiness Subgroup: “2017 Hurricane Response Brown Bag” Presenters: CDR Kimberly Nguyen deployed to Houston, TX on the Services Access Team (SAT) and LCDRs Latasha Allen, Angela Thompson-Paul, and Jennifer Smith all deployed to Atlanta, GA with the Incident Response Coordination Team (IRCT). Presenters discussed case management, data fusion, and analytic tools used during Hurricane Harvey, Irma and Maria responses.
- EpiC Team members participated in the 2018 Inaugural USPHS Epidemiology Forum. LCDR Laura Vonnahme served as the Planning Committee Chair and CDR Kimberly Nguyen presented on the sampling design and methodology of the Violence Against Children Surveys (VACS).
- Team members participated in deployment activities including recovery efforts following Hurricanes Irma and Maria, to the Secretary’s Operations Center (SOC) in Washington, DC, locally in North Carolina for Hurricane Florence, and to the U.S. Capitol Multi-Agency Coordination Center (MACC) and DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA) MACC in Washington, DC.
- EpiC held several meetings, which created opportunities to share resources and increase knowledge to further develop epidemiologist careers in the Commissioned Corps:
 - “Increasing Visibility and Impact Among HSO Epidemiologists” Presenter: CAPT Willis Marsh, Health Services CPO.
 - “Promotions and Career Advancement for Epidemiologists” Presenter: CAPT Anna Satcher Johnson.
 - “Using Data Visualization” Presenter: CDR Antoinette Percy-Laury.
 - “Introduction to Tableau” Presenter: Claudine Kabera, Epidemiologist, FDA.



LT Kimberly (Davis) Evans
Co-Lead



CDR Kimberly Nguyen
Co-Lead

Generalist Team

Mission

To promote and support officers who possess diverse skillsets and expertise performing a wide range of public health functions within their agency, deployment teams, and in special assignments with the USPHS through:

- Education on public health competencies and the public health “generalist” credential — advanced degree programs.
- Education and promotion of the capacities and competencies of public health “generalists.”
- Opportunities to lead public health initiatives/activities related to the PHPAG objectives and engagement in PHPAG and PHPAG Generalist Team meetings.

Accomplishments

- LCDR Charlotte Kaboré and LCDR Tracy Tilghman collaborated with Health Promotion Health Education Team to present a poster during the 2018 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium: “Credentialing for Health Educators and Public Health.”
- Hosted educational series to discuss advanced degrees and certificate programs with an emphasis on the Doctorate of Public Health (DrPH) or clinical degrees. The Educational Series featured Yale University and University of Illinois-Chicago.
- Hosted a webinar on long-term training options available for PHS officers, in which 75 officers participated. LCDR Tchernavia Gregory, participated in a PACE (Prevention through Active Community Engagement) Latino Health Campaign event at Kennesaw State University. During the event, officers shared information with middle and high school students about careers in public health and USPHS.
- In collaboration with the Health Promotion Health Education Team, hosted a 2018 APHA Virtual Conference, sponsored by APHA Live. APHA Live conference recordings will be available to registered officers until November 14, 2019.
- Participated in Girl Power STEAM (Science Technology, Engineer, Arts, and Math) event at Five Forks Middle School in Lawrenceville, GA. LCDR Charlotte Kaboré was among several USPHS featured speakers. The officers engaged students about USPHS, education, and careers in public health followed by an engaging activity designed to educate and empower them.
- Participated in a community outreach event at the CDC Emergency Operation Center (EOC). As a part of the EOC tour, LCDR Tchernavia Gregory, along with four other officers, educated Marist School students on the USPHS and our impact on public health worldwide. A total of 29 students and 3 chaperones participated in the event.



LCDR Charlotte Kaboré
Co-Lead



LCDR Tchernavia Gregory
Co-Lead

Global Health Team

Mission

Established in 2013, the Global Health Team serves as an interdisciplinary resource for officers of all USPHS Categories working in – or interested in – the field of global health. Our mission is to increase the capacity of the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps in global health through professional development for Public Health Service officers.

Accomplishments

- Coordinated eight global health seminars, which resulted in more than 260 junior and senior officers (cumulative total) across multiple agencies, categories, and tracks learning important global health information while also enhancing interpersonal connections and information sharing:
 - “Family Liaison Office (FLO) and Community Liaison Office (CLO) Resources for Your Overseas Tour” Presenter: Susan Frost, Director, U.S. Department of State Family Liaison Office.
 - “COCOM: What's That?” Presenters: CDR Jill Breitbach, NORTHCOM LNO (ASPR); CAPT Jean-Pierre DeBarros, SOUTHCOM LNO (ASPR); LCDR Abraham Marrero, SOUTHCOM (ASPR); and LCDR Matt Johns, HHS Global Health Security Advisor - Asia Pacific (HHS/OGA).
 - “Essentials for Securing a Position in Global Health: What Commissioned Officers Need to Know” Presenter: Sandra Wright-Fofanah, Global Assignment Management Team Lead, CDC, Center for Global Health, Overseas Operations Office.
 - “International Experience and Technical Assistance (IETA)” Presenter: Christine Jolley, Program Manager, CDC, Center for Global Health, Overseas Operations Office.
 - “Overview of Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) Populations and Programs” Presenter: CDR Curi Kim, Director of the Division of Refugee Health, Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), Administration for Children and Families (ACF).
 - “WHO Perspective on Substandard and Falsified Medical Products” Presenter: Diana Lee, Technical Advisor, World Health Organization (WHO), Substandard and Falsified (SF) Medical Products Team.
 - “Panel Discussion on Overseas Assignments: A Conversation with Three Officers” Presenters: CDR Douan Kirivong, Deputy Director, CDC Caribbean Regional Office (Jamaica); LCDR Jennifer Adams, Inspector, FDA, Office of International Programs (India); and LT Titania Techeira, Branch Chief, Partner Management Branch, CDC (Cote d' Ivoire).
 - “Implications of the World Trade Organization and Free Trade Agreements in Combating Non-Communicable Diseases” Presenter: Emily Bleimund, Director of Trade and Health.
- On November 9, 2018, 11 officers participated in a one-day, in-person site visit in New York City, New York. During the site visit, officers met with global health leaders of key organizations that USPHS may collaborate with during an international deployment, including the Council on Foreign Relations, United Nations, and Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF).



LCDR Alyson Rose-Wood
Co-Lead



LCDR Felicia Warren
Co-Lead

Health Promotion & Health Education Team

Mission

To increase the visibility of health educators across the Commissioned Corps and provide opportunities to support health educators' continuing education requirements and enhance personal growth and development.

Accomplishments

- Maintained monthly listing of continuing education unit (CEU) opportunities to provide free and low-cost CHES/MCHES resources to assist officers with maintaining their health education professional licensure and expertise.
- Collaborated with the Generalist Team to provide access to the 2018 APHA Annual Meeting and Expo through APHA Live, its online platform. The meeting took place in person in San Diego, CA from November 10-14, 2018. Approximately 150 officers from across several Categories participated and were eligible to receive up to 19 Continuing Education Units (CEUs).
- Utilized Team's expertise to continue collaboration with the Surgeon General's Prevention through Active Community Engagement (PACE) to standardize templates and related tools associated with their opioid lesson plans.
- Conducted two webinars, including one on Post-9/11 Benefits and a workforce assessment webinar to provided additional information to team members on careers in health promotion/health education within various agencies.
- Collaborated with the Generalist Team to re-release the Certified Public Health (CPH) study guide for officers for 2019 operational year.

APHA 2018 | SAN DIEGO
Annual Meeting & Expo | NOV. 10 – 14



LCDR Tracy Tilghman
Co-Lead



CDR Neelam Ghiya
Co-Lead

Executive Committee & Voting Members

Welcome to the 2019 PHPAG Executive Committee and Voting Members

2019 Executive Committee

Chair: LCDR Jennifer Freiman

Chair-Elect: LCDR Janesia Robbs

2019 Voting Members

LCDR Johnni Daniel (Administrative Subgroup Chair)

CDR Michael Ahmadi (Awards Subgroup Chair)

LCDR Charlotte Kaboré (Communications Subgroup Chair)

LCDR Laura Vonnahme (Data and Evaluation Subgroup Chair)

CDR Michelle Sandoval-Rosario (Education, Training, and Mentorship Subgroup Chair)

CDR Kimberly Nguyen (Policy Subgroup Chair)

CDR Jonathan Kwan (Technical Readiness Subgroup Chair)

Message from the 2019 PHPAG Chair

I am honored to serve as your 2019 Public Health Professional Advisory Group (PHPAG) Chair. I am an epidemiologist stationed at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service in Washington, DC. I have two sons, aged 8 months and 2 ½ years, who are a lot of fun and keep my husband and me on our toes. When I'm not working, you'll likely find me spending time with my family. I enjoy spending time with my boys, exploring new parks and neighborhoods, skiing, scuba diving, and being outdoors.

PHPAG is the largest PAG in the Health Services category, with approximately 360 officers across a wide variety of public health disciplines and agencies. Our diverse backgrounds and experiences uniquely position us to contribute countless skill sets and invaluable perspectives to the Commissioned Corps and HSPAC. We also have the unique opportunity to provide information related to career development for officers within the PHPAG.

In 2019, I hope to increase officer engagement within the PHPAG. Ensuring all our voices are heard will allow our PAG to have the greatest impact possible. We will continue the great work that we are currently doing, and will identify opportunities to strengthen our collaborations and increase visibility of the PHPAG and Commissioned Corps. As your Chair, I will also continue to advocate for the PHPAG at the PAC level and beyond to ensure our disciplines are represented. Each and every officer has a critical role to play and I look forward to working with you to advance the PHPAG.

Happy Holidays! Here's to a wonderful new year and continued service!



LCDR Jennifer Freiman
2019 PHPAG Chair

Announcements

Show your PHPAG Pride and order your challenge coin today!

Contact LCDR Jennifer Freiman (Jennifer.Freiman@fsis.usda.gov)



Meeting the Editors

Thank you to the wonderful officers on the Communications Subgroup who volunteered their time throughout the year to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information to the PHPAG. Members of the subgroup also served as editors of this newsletter.

CDR Jabal Chase	LCDR Johnni Daniel
CDR Sherene Cora	LT John Martin Jackson
CDR Cindy Eugene	LCDR Kimberley Ricketts
CDR LaJeana Hawkins	LCDR Jennifer Smith
CDR Andrea Peay	LCDR Ayana Stanley
LCDR Jamar Barnes	LCDR Felicia Warren
LCDR Onieka Carpenter	

Meet Your Chief Editors



LCDR Jamar Barnes
Chief Editor



LCDR Felicia Warren
Chief Editor



LCDR Kimberley Ricketts
Chief Editor