



Social Work Professional Advisory Group

General Meeting Minutes

(SEPTEMBER) 4 OCT 2021 1300-1400 HRS EST

Conference Link: <https://stephaniefelder.my.webex.com/meet/33felder>

Conference Dial in (415) 655-0001 Access Code: 126 444 6836#

- I. **Welcome/Attendance**– (Please Press *6 to unmute)
- II. **(02/16/21) Review Minutes (1st Motion/2nd Motion):** LCDR R. Van Meir / CAPT C. Weeks
- III. **Flag Officer: RADM Matthew E. Kleiman** matthew.e.kleiman.mil@mail.mil
 - RADMs are developing an understanding for how their roles fits in with the liaisons and CPOs so they can be ambassadors for the officers represented. It is a work in progress.
 - RADM Kleiman expressed an intention to provide a voice to the ASGs and the SG to make sure we have an opportunity to have a seat at the table.
 - There is an openness to look at where we need to focus our efforts to support the many challenges that the last 2 years have brought on with the deployments, promotion rates, and officers being unhappy about how decisions are being made.
 - RADM Kleiman would like to engage in honest discussions the PAG. No feedback is off limits. Officers can address concerns within PAG meetings or reach out to him directly. Would like to carefully choose what topics we would like to elevate to up to the most senior levels of our service.
 - RADM Kleiman acknowledged how frustrating the past year has been. Regarding promotions rates, there does not appear to be a shift anticipated in the next few years. Encouraged officers to find meaning in what we do.
 - Floor was opened for questions for the RADM. No questions asked. A link will be provided to the PAG to submit questions for RADM Kleiman to address in future SWPAG meetings.
- IV. **SWPAG Chair: CDR Stephanie Felder**
 1. CDR Felder has a new position as the Lead Social Worker with the PHERST. New supervisor is CAPT Wanza Bacon who has agreed to speak to the SWPAG in the next SWPAG meeting with information about the PHERST and job opportunities for Social Workers. Additional information will be forwarded about this presentation. New email for CDR Felder is: Stephanie.Felder@hhs.gov.
 2. **USVETS/Homeless Veterans Update**
 - Veterans Day cookout event with USVETS was successful. Thank you to CDR Wendy Petit and LCDR Keisha Bryan for support and leadership in pulling the event together.

- The cookout, intended to be for lunch, ultimately fed for lunch and dinner due to so much food being made available through donations from the SWPAG and DC COA. Over 40 veterans reside at this location. Approx 20 presented for lunch and more were able to eat at dinnertime.
- Email of appreciation received from USVETS who expressed an interest in establishing a continuing partnership. SWPAG will begin extending service opportunities to the other states as well.
- DC VA Winter Haven 2021 will become “Winter Haven Lite”. Information is forthcoming. Will be collecting boots and coats for homeless veterans. SWPAG will participate in this event as well as create hygiene bags. Will also reach out to other branches to possibly expand these event opportunities to other areas.

3. Meet and Greet DMV

- Scheduled Meet and Greet bowling event was cancelled due to the Delta Variant.
- The space reservation is still available to the PAG and it is TBD if this event will be rescheduled this year. Updates forthcoming.

4. TeleHealth Certification

- At next meeting, Raymond Barrett will speak to the PAG about telehealth certification opportunities. In addition to the previous certifications announced, there is also a Tele Military Certification that he will speak about.
- 15% discount is still available to all PHS officers. Information is available in the SWPAG weekly announcements.

5. Publication Opportunities

- The editors of Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness has informed they have been receiving emails from PHS officers interested in signing up to be journal reviewers.
- They are in the process of purging their list of inactive reviewers and adding reviewers to the list. They are asking if there are more officers interested in joining in and are willing to take on more people. If you are interested in becoming a journal reviewer, reach out to them.
- Presenter for “How to Publish” presentation is unable to come speak to the PAG so we are now seeking a replacement for this discussion. More to come.

6. SWPAG 2022 Elections

- Election nominations will begin for the next Chair-Elect for the SWPAG.
- Information will be disseminated via email today.

V. Chair Elect: LCDR Robert Van Meir

- Chair Elect encourages 04/05 officers to run for SWPAG Chair or apply for the Executive Secretary position. Noted this will be a great impact in a promotion packet.
- CDR Van Meir announced that Social Workers from the Army will speak to the SWPAG in January regarding their promotion journey.

VI. Executive Secretary Update

- Press *6 to unmute
- Email your meeting attendance to tfinchhall@bop.gov.

VII. SubGroup Reports

OPERATIONS

<p>Communications <i>Chair:</i> LCDR Lorener Brayboy Lorener.E.Brayboy@ice.dhs.gov</p> <p><i>Co-Chair:</i> CDR Mark Durham Mark.Durham@ice.dhs.gov</p>	<p>No update.</p>
<p>Awards <i>Chair:</i> CDR Kymberly Spady-Grove kymberly.m.spady-grove@uscg.mil</p> <p><i>Co-Chair:</i> CDR Preston Shumaker Preston.L.Shumaker@ice.dhs.gov</p>	<p>No update.</p>
<p>Stakeholder & Community Engagement <i>Chair:</i> CDR Monique Worrell-Oriola Monique.Worrell-Oriola@ice.dhs.gov</p> <p><i>Co-Chair:</i> CDR Holly Berilla HBerilla@hrsa.gov</p>	<p>No update.</p>

OFFICER SUPPORT

<p>Training, Education, and Mentorship <i>Chair:</i> LCDR Monique Richards Monique.Richards@ihhs.gov</p> <p><i>Co-Chairs:</i> CDR Kimberley Jones (Mentoring) kimberley.r.jones.mil@mail.mil</p> <p>LCDR Candice Karber (Training and Education) CKarber@hrsa.gov</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Workers are encouraged to participate in the 2021 Coaching on Demand and CV Review. The due date to sign up is October 6, 2021. Please reference the HSO announcement for more details.
<p>Readiness <i>Chair:</i> LT Desirrae Harris desirrae.d.harris.mil@mail.mil</p> <p><i>Co-Chair:</i> CDR Kari Harris k2xharris@bop.gov</p>	<p>No update.</p>
<p>Data and Evaluation <i>Chair:</i> CDR Allah-Fard Sharrieff Allah-Fard.M.Sharrieff@ice.dhs.gov</p> <p><i>Co-Chair:</i> CDR Alysia (Jackson) Ward ax4jackson@bop.gov</p>	<p>No update.</p>

MANAGEMENT

<p>Policy <i>Chair:</i> LCDR Robert Van Meir Robert.E.VanMeir@ice.dhs.gov</p> <p><i>Co-Chair:</i> CAPT Karen Hearod karen.hearod@samhsa.hhs.gov</p>	<p>No update.</p>
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Administrative Management <i>Chair:</i> CAPT Cole Weeks cole.weeks.usphs@gmail.com <i>Co-Chair:</i> CDR Christine Nemeti cole.weeks.usphs@gmail.com	No update.

AdHOC SUBGROUP

Recruitment and Retention <i>Chair:</i> LT Janelle Phillip Janelle.Phillip@ice.dhs.gov <i>Co-Chair:</i> LT Everett Rollins IV rollinsiv@gmail.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The SWPAG Recruitment & Retention Social Work 21 in 2021 is back. The goal is to increase our recruitment efforts at universities. We have the presentation prepared for usage AND we have our new, SWPAG MSW Program Directory that will make coordination, seamless. We are in need of 13 volunteers to commit to at least one presentation before the end of 2021. The SWPAG Recruitment & Retention is continuing our “Where We Work” initiative which showcases what, where, and how PHS social workers support the mission across agencies. An announcement is forthcoming and we are looking for volunteers at all agencies.
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OPEN FLOOR:

- Chair acknowledges LCDR Marriah Lombardo for her efforts in matching PAG social workers to senior social workers in the HSPAC CV Review process in her role on that HSPAC committee. Information for CV review will be resent today.

Meeting Adjourned at 1327 EST (1st Motion/2nd Motion): CDR J. Bynum / CAPT W. Finch

NOTE: Please email your attendance to Executive Secretary Finch-Hall at tfinchhall@bop.gov

ATTENDANCE

RADM Matthew Kleiman	CDR Stephanie Felder	LCDR Robert Van Meir	LT Tamika Finch-Hall
CDR Kymberly Spady-Grove	CDR Kari Harris	CAPT Cole Weeks	CDR Christine Nemeti

CAPT Wanda Finch	CAPT M. Sonsy Fermin	CAPT Jerry Mahlau- Heinert	CAPT Kristin Kelly
CAPT Scott Conner	CAPT Emily Williams	CDR Renee Pleasanton	CDR Kari Harris
CDR Timothy Pappalardo	CDR Gina Ligonde	CDR Jenny McCorkle	LCDR Jamillah Bynum
LCDR Sheila Houghton-Antonucci	LCDR Michelle Matthey	LCDR Jennifer Weekes	LCDR Sara Rasmussen
LCDR Monique Richards	LCDR Andrea Cunningham	LCDR Marriah Lombardo	LCDR Kimberly Calvery
LCDR Andrea Cunningham	LT Marion Willbright	LT Delice Echols	LT Luis Figueroa
LT Katana Jackson	LT Curtis Hagerman	LT Keisha Bryan	LT Angela Fellows
LT Michael Krusinsky	LT Tashonne Timson		
Excused:			
<i>CAPT T. Booker</i>	<i>LCDR L. Brayboy</i>	<i>CDR M. Durham</i>	<i>CDR P. Shumaker</i>
<i>CDR M. Worrell-Oriola</i>	<i>CDR H. Berilla</i>	<i>LCDR M. Richards</i>	<i>CDR K. Jones</i>
<i>LCDR C. Karber</i>	<i>LT D. Harris</i>	<i>CDR K. Harris</i>	<i>CDR A-F Sharrieff</i>
<i>CDR A. Ward</i>	<i>CAPT K. Hearod</i>	<i>LT J. Phillip</i>	<i>LT E. Rollins IV</i>