



# FACES OF THE CORPS



OCTOBER  
2015

BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS  
ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)

VOLUME 3,  
ISSUE 1

## Profiles in Exemplary Officership



### CAPT Mary I. Lambert USPHS, (Ret.) 2015 BCOAG Retired Officer Recognition Award Recipient

CAPT Mary I. Lambert (USPHS Ret.) has more than 23 years of service as a nurse. She served first with the U.S. Army from 1989 to 1992, and then with the U.S. Public Health Service (PHS) from 1992 until her retirement in 2012. CAPT Lambert's first PHS assignment was as a clinical care nurse for a migrant and seasonal farm worker program in Health Resources and Services Administration's Bureau of Health Care Delivery and Assistance. Since then, she has served in

various leadership capacities in several Department of Health and Human Services organizations including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Food and Drug Administration, and Office of the Surgeon General.

CAPT Lambert's exemplary leadership, and skills in communication, management, and coordination were recognized with a detail to the White House to serve in the USA Freedom Corps Office to coordinate the development the USA Freedom Corps in 2003. She provided oversight and guidance to ensure effective coordination of the various organizational components involved in the development of the volunteer Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Program. CAPT Lambert served as Director of the MRC Program in the Office of the Surgeon General from March through September 2003.

CAPT Lambert's contributions have had national and global impact. She was instrumental in rebuilding the health workforce infrastructure in the Republic of Rwanda after the devastating civil war in the early 1990s. As a consultant, CAPT Lambert coordinated and managed a national training program that addressed short-term needs for health care providers and developed a long-term plan for nursing infrastructure for Rwanda. Today, Rwanda has multiple schools of nursing and midwifery, a national council of nurse-midwives, the Rwanda Nurses Association and a growing health workforce that includes thousands of nurses and hundreds of midwives. In retirement, CAPT Lambert continues a long history of service in programs providing for health care needs and addressing public health. Her current professional activities include designing online education for nurses, transforming health care by establishing a network of retired nurse consultants, and developing community based programs to increase the availability of health care services for female veterans.

*CAPT Mary I. Lambert (Ret.) is the recipient of the BCOAG Retired Officer Recognition Award for her exemplary public health leadership as a commissioned officer and for continued service to the Nation in nursing and public health.*

#### IN THIS ISSUE

CAPT Mary I. Lambert (Ret.)	1
CDR John Oguntomilade	2
LCDR Emily Dokubo	3
PHS Award Recipients	4
Special Assignment Award Recipients	4
BCOAG Chair Award Recipients	4
Note from the Awards Chair	5



## CDR John Oguntomilade 2015 Hildrus A. Poindexter Award Recipient

*CDR John Oguntomilade is recognized with the Hildrus A. Poindexter Award for his exceptional leadership in the U.S. global response to HIV/AIDS.*



CDR John Oguntomilade is a global public health professional and dentist with more than 15 years of post-doctoral experience. He was recruited as a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) scholar in 2006, and successfully completed the Scholars Program before joining the HRSA HIV/AIDS global program in 2008. Since then, he has served as the program officer managing the HRSA U.S. President's Emergency Program for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). This program has received more than \$700 million to provide HIV care and treatment in ten countries across sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean.

CDR Oguntomilade has traveled to 11 countries including: South Africa, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Haiti, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Namibia, Mozambique, Guyana and Haiti conducting program assessments, monitoring transitions, providing technical assistance and representing the United States Government in meetings with in-country foreign governments.

A major accomplishment of his career was his successful transition of more than 700,000 patients in the HIV care and treatment program initially managed by U.S. partners to in-country local organizations in Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Ethiopia, Zambia, Guyana, Haiti and South Africa.

CDR Oguntomilade has represented HRSA in U.S. interagency, Care and Support, and Sustainability technical working groups. He was also selected to serve on the U.S. Government "Surge Team" that developed the operational transitional plan for South Africa HIV programs. He currently serves as the program officer managing the U.S. Government PEPFAR Medical Education Partnership Initiative Coordinating Center grant. This is a \$130 million, 5-year grant that supports 13 foreign medical institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa in developing, expanding and enhancing models of medical education.

CDR Oguntomilade is a recipient of several USPHS Honor and Service awards including the Outstanding Service Medal, Commendation Medal, Achievement Medal and Foreign Duty and Hazard Duty service awards. He has also received the U.S. Department of State Meritorious Service award.



LCDR

## LCDR Emily Dokubo 2015 George I. Lythcott Award Recipient

*LCDR Emily Dokubo is recognized with the George I. Lythcott Award for her diligence, dedication, selfless service and leadership in advancing the goals of the U.S. Public Health Service.*



LCDR Emily Dokubo is a medical officer in the HIV Care and Treatment Branch in the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Division of Global HIV/AIDS. She joined CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer in 2011 and her work has focused on supporting HIV prevention, care and treatment programs through the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) globally.

LCDR Dokubo is credited with a number of PEPFAR achievements. She successfully led the first evaluation of the national laboratory HIV/AIDS Information System in Brazil to optimize the care of more than 200,000 HIV-positive persons receiving antiretroviral therapy (ART) in the country.

LCDR Dokubo led the investigation of high prevalence in one of the ten states of South Sudan, the first formative assessment of factors contributing to HIV transmission in the post-conflict region. The results of her investigation informed and guided the development of the current national guidelines.

In Nigeria, LCDR Dokubo led the analysis of TB/HIV services in the first national evaluation of the Nigeria HIV care and treatment program. She was instrumental in strategic allocation of the \$458 million of U.S. Government HIV/AIDS resources to achieve epidemic control in Nigeria.

LCDR Dokubo directed the first regionally representative surveillance of acquired HIV drug resistance in South Africa to guide the selection of population-based treatment regimens in the national ART guidelines. Based on her pilot study, the World Health Organization is developing a systematic approach for cross-sectional HIV drug resistance surveys in resource-limited settings.

LCDR Dokubo also led the development of the clinical operations manual and standard operating procedures for the Botswana combination prevention project, a multi-million dollar study to evaluate the impact and cost-effectiveness of a combination of HIV prevention strategies, which could directly impact the future direction of the global HIV/AIDS response.

In her current position, LCDR Dokubo serves as the CDC-Headquarters TB/HIV consultant for eight countries with high TB and HIV burden. She provides technical assistance for the implementation and scale-up of collaborative TB/HIV activities in PEPFAR-supported countries. She deployed to Sierra Leone in support of the Ebola outbreak response, and also works as a physician in the Dekalb County Board of Health TB clinic.

LCDR Dokubo recognizes the importance of mentorship and credits her mentors in contributing to her career successes. She volunteers as a preceptor to medical students; and mentors and supervises five clinic staff as part of her weekly clinic duties as a physician in Dekalb County Board of Health TB clinic. LCDR Dokubo has served as a supervisor for graduate medical and public health students interested in a career in public health, and is currently the primary supervisor for an Epidemic Intelligence Service officer at CDC.

# KUDOS!

## PHS AWARD RECIPIENTS

**CAPT Michael Smith (Therapist/NIH)** is the recipient of the 2014 William Fromherz Award. This award recognizes a career officer in the Therapist Category for outstanding contributions in clinical care, program development, administration, or a combination thereof. CAPT Smith is recognized for the positive impact her contributions have made on the health care profession, the officer's program, and/or the Commissioned Corps during his/her career in the United States Public Health Service.

**CDR Robert Windom (HSO/HRSA)** is the recipient of the 2015 Stanley J. Kissel Health Services Officer of the Year Award for his selfless dedication to the PHS mission and significant leadership and contributions to Public Health. In 2015, CDR Windom also received his Certification as a Health Education Specialist (CHES) from the National Commission for Health Education Credentialing for proficiency in Health Education.

## PHS SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

The following BCOAG voting members were awarded the PHS Special Assignment Award in 2015.

CDR Latonia Ford (Nurse/FDA)

CDR Adrienne Goodrich-Doctor (Scientist/NIH)

CDR Julia Bryan (HSO/HRSA)

CDR Delia Jones-McHorgh (HSO/HRSA)

LCDR Nadra Tyus (Scientist/HRSA)

LCDR Filita Moore (Nurse/FDA)

LCDR Bryna Forson (HSO/HRSA)

## 2014 BCOAG CHAIR AWARD RECIPIENTS

**CDR Aisha K. Mix (Nurse/HRSA)** (voting member) is the recipient of the 2014 BCOAG Chair Award for her outstanding support and efforts to align the BCOAG's strategic planning process and financial management system which strengthened our ability to carry out BCOAG's mission.

**LT Yandace K. Brown (Veterinarian/DHS)** (non-voting member) is the recipient of the 2014 BCOAG Chair Award for her exemplary leadership of the 2014 NOLA mission and for developing a model strategic planning, implementation, and evaluation process to ensure the success of future missions.



### *Note from the Awards Chair*

This third volume of the Faces of the Corps highlights the contributions of BCOAG officers who are recent recipients of BCOAG, PHS, and Special Assignment awards. This publication recognizes our commitment and dedication to the mission of the Commissioned Corps as well as the positive impact of our service and contributions both nationally and internationally.



### Your Faces of the Corps Team!

CDR Samantha Fontenelle  
Chair, 2015 Awards Committee

CDR Tarsha Cavanaugh  
Co-chair, 2015 Awards Committee

CDR Kimberly McIntosh-Little  
2015 Awards Committee Member

#### BCOAG 2015 Executive Committee

Chair:	CDR Hamet Touré
Chair-Elect:	LCDR Nadra Tyus
Executive Secretary:	LCDR Valerie Marshall
Correspondence Secretary:	LCDR Bryna Forson
Minority Officer Liaison (MOLC) Representative:	CDR Kofi Ansah
COF Liaison:	CDR Aisha Mix
Past-Chair:	CDR Adrienne Goodrich-Doctor

**We're on the Web!**

<https://dcp.psc.gov/osg/bcoag/>