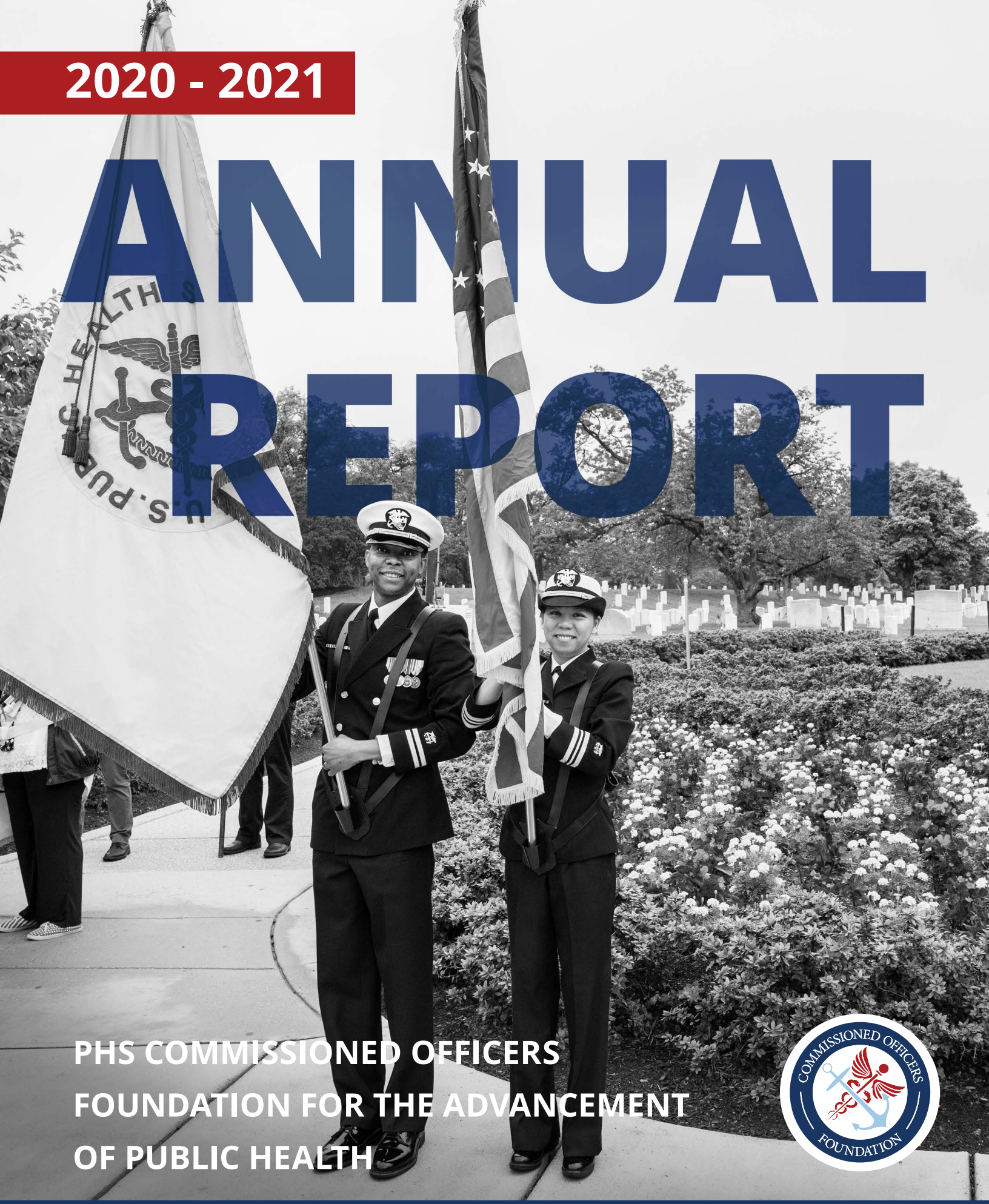
2020 - 2021

ANNUAL REPORT



PHS COMMISSIONED OFFICERS FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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LETTER FROM THE **PRESIDENT**

I am very pleased to be able to introduce this report on the 2020-2021 fiscal year activities (June 2020-July 2021) of the PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health (COF). Thanks to the generous support of our donors, we were able to fulfill our goals by providing funding to local community-based non-profit organizations, and opportunities to develop future public health leaders through scholarships and training opportunities for active-duty US Public Health Service (USPHS) Commissioned Corps Officers and their family members as well as for students pursuing studies focused on a public health career.

The Martha Barclay-Giel Seed Grants provided over $220,000 to 27 community-based non-profit organizations supporting the Surgeon General's priorities, including tobacco use prevention, oral health education and care services, culturally appropriate messaging for disease prevention and health promotion, and substance abuse prevention and intervention programs.

Our Family Member Scholarships are available to high school, undergraduate, and graduate students sponsored by a Commissioned Officers Association for the US Public Health Service (COA) member in good standing. During the 2020-2021 fiscal year, we awarded 12 such scholarships. We also made awards through the RADM Helena O. Mishoe Diversity "Believe" Scholarship to help support high school seniors from populations that are burdened by health disparities, and which have been shown to be underrepresented in the health sciences as well as through the RADM Jerrold M. Michael Fellowship program for continuing education for active-duty USPHS officers.

For the second year in a row, the COVID-19 pandemic forced the postponement of the USPHS Scientific & Training Symposium. However, in collaboration with COA, COF was able to sponsor a series of activities including COVID-safe Category Days and the Surgeon General's 5K Run/Walk, both of which normally occur at the Symposium. We also supported a series of COA Gatherings, featuring distinguished speakers who addressed active-duty and retired officers with inspiring and energizing messages reinforcing an appreciation for the work of Corps officers during the trying times of the pandemic.

During this year, COF adopted a new logo and a new motto—Forging Leadership for Generations. That phrase speaks to both the long and storied history of the USPHS and the Commissioned Corps, as well as our commitment to support the Corps and its officers as they experience and learn from their service during the extraordinary and unprecedented events of the pandemic.

Like so much else, public health, the US Public Health Service and the Commissioned Corps will be changed by the world's struggle against COVID. Through its education and advocacy on behalf of health, COF seeks to be a positive force providing

LETTER FROM THE **PRESIDENT** CONTINUED

guidance and recommendations that center the USPHS as a critical part of the Nation's effort to protect and promote the health of people across the United States and around the world.

No summary of this past year would be complete without an acknowledgement and heartfelt appreciation of COF's Executive Director and her staff, whose tireless work makes possible all COF's accomplishments. Our thanks and recognition to CAPT Jacqueline Rychnovsky, USN (Ret.), and Ms. Teresa Hayden Foley, Ms. Donna Sparrow, Ms. Erica Robinson, and Ms. Lynn Abrahamson.

In Officio Salutis (In the Service of Health),

Steven L. Solomon, MD

Rear Admiral (Ret.), U.S. Public Health Service

President, PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health

HISTORY OF THE **FOUNDATION**

2000

The PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health **(COF) was established**.

2005

The Foundation organized and sponsored its **first Global Health Summit.** Attendees concluded the day by approving The Philadelphia Concord, committing the participants to further the goal of collaborating to improve global health.

2005

The Anchor and Caduceus Society, founded in 1991 to preserve the history and legacy of the USPHS Commissioned Corps, **merged with the COF.**

2006

The Foundation published its first book **A Century of Adventure in Northern Health**: The US Public Health Service in Alaska, 1879 to 1978 by CAPT Robert Fortuine, USPHS, (Ret.)

2006

The Foundation published the **Public Health Service Officer's Guide: Protocol and Service Standards** by CAPT Jim Knoben USPHS (Ret.), and CDR Alice Knoben, and donated a copy of the guide to all 6,000+ active duty USPHS officers.

2006

Family member **scholarships established** under the Foundation.

2006

John Adams Society established.

2007

COF assumed responsibility and **funding for the USPHS Scientific** and Training Symposium.

2009

COF created the **RADM Jerrold M. Michael Fellowship** in partnership with the University of Maryland School of Public Health.

HISTORY OF THE **FOUNDATION** CONTINUED

2010

First Capital Campaign launched.

2011

COF published **Public Health Emergency Preparedness & Response: Principles & Practice**, a ready source of information that is applicable both as a desktop reference and field manual. This book was edited by VADM Richard Carmona, 17th Surgeon General of the United States; CAPT (Ret.) Robert Darlin; CAPT (Ret.) Jim Knoben; and RADM (Ret.) Jerrold Michael.

2012

COF received a bequest of $620,000 upon the death of CAPT Robert Lathrop, who spent his USPHS career as a dentist in remote parts of Alaska.

2013

C. Everett Koop Living Legacy Fund established following the death of the 13th Surgeon General.

2017

Establishment of the COF Disaster Relief Fund, which helps Commissioned Corps officers whose homes are damaged by natural disasters.

2018

COF received a $4.6 million bequest from the estate of CAPT Martha Barclay-Giel, and subsequently established the Barclay-Giel Seed Grants.

2020

20th Anniversary of the Foundation.

2021

COF published **Service Before Self,** a summary of the 2014-2016 Commissioned Corps response to the Ebola virus outbreak.

2021

For the 2nd year in a row, the annual **USPHS Scientific & Training Symposium** was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Category Day events were held virtually, sponsored by COF.

PURPOSE OF THE FOUNDATION **AND COMMITTEES**

THE PURPOSE OF THE FOUNDATION IS TO RECEIVE, ADMINISTER, AND EXPEND FUNDS FOR THE FOLLOWING CHARITABLE AND EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986:

- **Education and training for health professionals;**
- **The conduct of studies and research;**
- **Collaboration with related organizations** and the broad dissemination of public and professional information;
- **Other educational and charitable activity** as determined by the Board of Trustees; to assist other educational and charitable organizations in the conduct of similar activities; and to engage in any and all lawful activities incidental to the foregoing purposes.

The Foundation conducts its activities through a variety of committees:

- **The Communications Committee** coordinates communications and outreach efforts for the Foundation.
- **The Development Committee** explores options for fund raising and conducts activities which allow the Foundation to advance public health.
- **The Education Committee** oversees the USPHS Scientific & Training Symposium, and explores ways that we can advance public health education.
- **The Executive Committee** acts on behalf of the full board to facilitate decision making between scheduled board meetings.
- **The Finance and Audit Committee** ensures that budgets are maintained and finances are kept in order.
- **The Nominations Committee** is responsible for recruiting future members of the COF Board of Trustees.
- **The Studies, Research, and Grants Committee** leads the Barclay-Giel Seed Grant program and evaluates other potential studies and research activities for the COF.

STRATEGIC GOALS

VISION

Advance public health and public health leadership for a healthier nation.

MISSION

Building leadership in public health through advocacy, education, research, partnerships and program support.

STRATEGIC GOALS

ADVOCACY

Advance public health and public health leadership through participation in, and collaboration on, initiatives that promote the public health mission of the USPHS Commissioned Corps and the overarching importance of public health for the Nation.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Conduct and fund public health education and training programs for USPHS commissioned officers and other health professionals.

GOVERNANCE AND DEVELOPMENT

Maintain an effective and informed Board of Trustees and increase the Foundation's financial resources in order to provide greater support for public health initiatives that are relevant to the mission of the Foundation.

PRESERVATION OF HERITAGE

Support activities and programs that highlight and preserve the historical legacy of the Public Health Service and the USPHS Commissioned Corps.

PROJECT AND RESEARCH SUPPORT

Support and conduct projects and research studies that advance and promote public health and public health leadership nationally and globally.

ISSUES AND **ADVOCACY**

OUR PRIMARY GOAL IS TO ADVANCE AND PROMOTE THE MISSION OF PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE UNITED STATES. WE DO THIS BY ADVOCATING ON BEHALF OF PUBLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND PUBLIC HEALTH ORGANIZATIONS, WITH A SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON THE OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSIONED CORPS.

WE ADVOCATE FOR:

- **Increased funding for public health** at all levels of government–federal, state, and local.
- **Increased recognition of the vital role of public health professionals** through greater support for training and education.
- **Augmenting the capacity of the public health system** to address critical problems through increased staffing, better equipment, and a national effort to prioritize health and safety of individuals and communities.
- **Greater awareness of the history and accomplishments** of the USPHS Commissioned Corps and its officers, as well as its potential to serve as the primary national locus for public health action in the United States.
- **A national commitment to public health literacy and education** in the United States to combat misinformation, disinformation, and contagion of anti-science that has become one of the greatest threats to the health of our communities.
- **A national commitment to training** the next generation of public health leaders with an emphasis on increasing representation from underserved and underrepresented groups.

EDUCATION AND **TRAINING**

DURING OUR 2ND YEAR OF BEING UNABLE TO HAVE A LIVE USPHS SCIENTIFIC & TRAINING SYMPOSIUM DUE TO COVID-19, THE PHS COF BOARD OF TRUSTEES MADE THE DECISION TO OFFER AS MANY ACTIVITIES AS POSSIBLE VIRTUALLY ON AN EXTENDED SCHEDULE. BELOW ARE HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS YEAR'S VIRTUAL ACTIVITIES.

CATEGORY DAYS

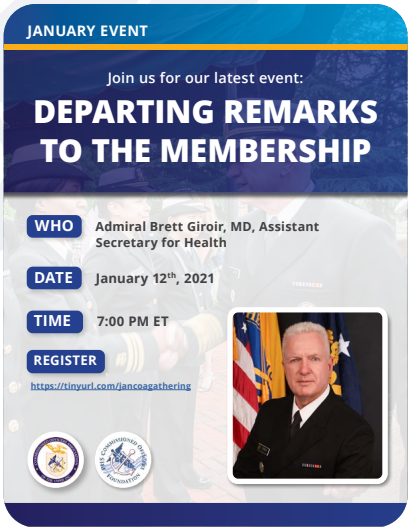
Nine of the 11 categories offered virtual Category Days, with over 1,000 officers participating. Virtual events included workshops, networking, mentoring/career counseling and promotion/ retirement ceremonies.

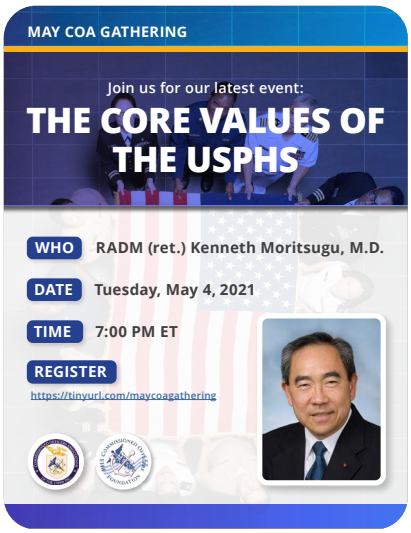
SURGEON GENERAL'S 5K RUN/WALK

Just over 600 officers participated around the nation in the Surgeon General's 5K Run/Walk from June 19-27. Prizes were awarded to the winners in various categories.

COA GATHERINGS

THE FOUNDATION WAS PLEASED TO SPONSOR FIVE VIRTUAL "COA GATHERINGS" DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD WHICH BROUGHT TOGETHER OVER 1,200 OFFICERS FOR EDUCATION, LEADERSHIP TRAINING, AND FELLOWSHIP.





SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

FAMILY MEMBER SCHOLARSHIP

The PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health (COF) offers an annual scholarship opportunity available to high school seniors, undergraduate, and graduate students who are sponsored by a member in good standing of the Commissioned Officers Association of the USPHS (COA). Students are recognized for their career aspirations, school & community activities, honors & awards, and academic performance.

The scholarships have been offered since 2006 and are funded by active duty and retired U.S. Public Health Service members, COA local branches, and others. In 2021, a total of $13,000 was awarded.

THE TWELVE 2021 RECIPIENTS WERE:

- **Addyson Trendel:** Nursing, University of Kansas (LCDR Gretchen Trendel)
- **Emily Fenno:** Physical Therapy, University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire (CDR James Fenno)
- **Evelyn Davidson:** Nursing, Indiana Wesleyan University (CAPT Bryan Davidson)
- **Grace Manning:** Molecular Biology, Colorado College (LCDR Jennifer Manning)
- **Katarina Fiorentino:** Speech-language Pathology, Florida State University (CDR Douglas Fiorentino)
- **Katherine Gora Combs:** Epidemiology, University of North Carolina (CAPT Jeffery Combs)
- **Kevin Xu:** Computer Science/Biology, Johns Hopkins University (CDR Fei Xu)
- **Kyler Martin-Yeboah:** Computer Engineering, Louisiana State University (CDR Garrette Martin-Yeboah)
- **Megan Goroski:** Biology, Grand Canyon University (CAPT Dean Goroski)
- **Miguel Verani:** Biology, Washington University (CAPT Jennifer Verani) – Lessing Scholarship*
- **Nam Phuong Pommier:** Nutrition and Exercise Science, Rowan University (LCDR Ryan Pommier)
- **Shelby Bachini:** Nursing, Dixie State University (LCDR Steven Bachini)

* *Ronald Lessing, DBA, MS, had a lifelong devotion to learning and teaching in science and mathematics. He served as a full-time Public Health Service civilian employee of various agencies within the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and received numerous honors and awards for outstanding performance. A devoted husband and father, Ronald Lessing tragically succumbed to a malignant disease on April 7, 1976, leaving a wife and three young sons. This award was established by his family to honor his legacy.*

More information about the COF Family Member Scholarships can be found at: https://www.phscof.org/scholarships/family-member-scholarships.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

RADM JERROLD M. MICHAEL FELLOWSHIP

The Commissioned Officers Foundation (COF) provides funding each year for COA members at the rank of 0-4 (LCDR) and below in the USPHS Commissioned Corps to obtain a Certificate of Global Health or a Certificate of Public Health through the University of Maryland School of Public Health. This fellowship is valued at approximately $12,000.

The Fellowship was established in 2009 to honor the late Rear Admiral Jerrold M. Michael, an engineer officer who was a lifelong advocate for improved public health education. RADM Michael's devotion to the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and academia was legendary. The certificate program offers a chance to learn about the latest in public health science and practice and to connect with others in the field.

More information about the RADM Michael Fellowship can be found at https://www.phscof.org/scholarships/radm-michael-fellowship/.

RECIPIENT

The 2021 RADM Jerrold M. Michael Fellowship recipient was Lieutenant Rachel McBride, MS, RDN, LD, CDCES.

Seeking new opportunities "to make the world a healthier place to live," LT McBride will be obtaining a Certificate in Global Health.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

RADM MISHOE DIVERSITY "BELIEVE" SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship for high school seniors was established in 2020 by RADM Helena O. Mishoe, USPHS, Retired. The award helps support the career dreams of high school seniors from populations underrepresented in the health sciences and research, or health-related disciplines.

In addition to academic achievement and extracurricular involvement, students must demonstrate resiliency in overcoming challenges. They must also be actively seeking to make the world a better place.

The 2021 RADM Mishoe "Believe" Scholarship recipient was Priya Kalra (pictured below). She received $1,000 to help support her education-related expenses. Morgan DeShazier and Christiana Armstrong were awarded honorable mentions and received certificates of achievement.

More information about the RADM Mishoe Diversity "Believe" Scholarship can be found at https://www.phscof.org/scholarships/.mishoe-believe-scholarship/.

RECIPIENT

The 2021 RADM Mishoe "Believe" Scholarship recipient was Priya Kalra.

She will be attending the University of Michigan to pursue a degree in biomedical engineering.

GOVERNANCE AND **DEVELOPMENT**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TRUSTEES

- RADM Steven Solomon, President, USPHS, (Ret.)
- RADM Randall Gardner, Vice President, USPHS, (Ret.)
- Mr. John DiMaggio, Treasurer
- RADM Sven Rodenbeck, Immediate Past President, USPHS, (Ret.)

TRUSTEES

- CAPT Jerome Alford, USPHS, (Ret.)
- CAPT Daniel Beck, USPHS, (Ret.)
- CAPT Dean Coppola, USPHS, (Ret.)
- RADM Michelle Dunwoody, USPHS, (Ret.)
- CAPT Alan Echt, USPHS, (Ret.)
- RADM Steven Galson, USPHS, (Ret.)
- RADM Dushanka Kleinman, USPHS, (Ret.)
- RADM Boris Lushniak, USPHS, (Ret.)
- CAPT James Minor, USPHS, (Ret.)
- RADM Sven Rodenbeck, USPHS, (Ret.)
- RADM Paul Seligman, USPHS, (Ret.)
- CAPT Lisa Tonrey, USPHS, (Ret.)
- CAPT Rob Tosatto, USPHS, (Ret.)

HONORARY TRUSTEES

Admiral & Surgeon General David Satcher, USPHS, (Ret.)

Vice Admiral & Surgeon General Regina M. Benjamin, USPHS, (Ret.)

Vice Admiral & Surgeon General Richard H. Carmona, USPHS, (Ret.)

Vice Admiral and Surgeon General M. Joycelyn Elders, USPHS, (Ret.)

Vice Admiral & Surgeon General Antonia C. Novello, USPHS, (Ret.)

Rear Admiral & Acting Surgeon General Audrey Forbes Manley, USPHS, (Ret.)

Rear Admiral & Acting Surgeon General Kenneth P. Moritsugu, USPHS, (Ret.)

HONORARY TRUSTEE EMERITUS OF THE FOUNDATION, IN PERPETUITY

Vice Admiral & Surgeon General C. Everett Koop, USPHS, In Memoriam

Rear Admiral & Assistant Surgeon General Jerrold M. Michael, USPHS, In Memoriam

STAFF

- Captain Jacqueline Rychnovsky, Executive Director, USN, (Ret.)
- Teresa Hayden, Chief Financial Officer
- Erica Robinson, Director of Administration
- Judith Rensberger, Director of Legislative Affairs
- Donna Sparrow, Membership Coordinator
- Lynn Abrahamson (Contractor), Grants Manager

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION, JUNE 30, 2021			
Assets			
Current Assets			
	Cash		13,883
	Due from COA		79,747
	Accounts Receivable		13,732
	Prepaid Expenses		0
	Total Current Assets		**$107,362**
Property and Equipment, Net			
	Investments		7,956,146
	Total Assets		**$8,063,508**
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Current Liabilities			
	Accounts Payable		49,338
	Deferred Revenue		63,425
	Total Current Liabilities - Total Liabilities		**$112,763**
Net Assets			
	Without Donor Restrictions		
		General	7,293,460
		Board Designated	275,088
	With Donor Restrictions - Temporary		286,243
	With Donor Restrictions - Permanent		95,954
	Total Current Liabilities - Total Liabilities		**$7,950,745**
Total Liabilities and Net Assets			**$8,063,508**

JOHN ADAMS SOCIETY

IN 1798, PRESIDENT JOHN ADAMS SIGNED INTO LAW THE ACT FOR THE RELIEF OF SICK AND DISABLED SEAMEN. IT WAS THE SEED WHICH GREW INTO TODAY'S COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.

Members of the John Adams Society have decided to plant their own seeds and support the PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health. They chose to bequeath funds to the Foundation in their wills and trusts.

MEMBERS

- CAPT Martha Barclay-Giel, USPHS, In Memoriam
- CAPT Amy C. Barkin, USPHS, (Ret.)
- CAPT John J. Bartko, USPHS, (Ret.)
- CAPT Leah M. Bigalow, USPHS, In Memoriam
- CAPT Rita K. Chow, USPHS, (Ret.)
- Mr. John J. DiMaggio
- CAPT Irene L. Doto, USPHS, In Memoriam
- RADM Marlene E. Haffner, USPHS, (Ret.)
- CAPT William H.J. Haffner, USPHS, (Ret.)
- CAPT Robert L. Lathrop, USPHS, In Memoriam
- RADM Michael R. Milner, USPHS, (Ret.)

2020 14TH ANNUAL COF GOLF TOURNAMENT

THE PHS COMMISSIONED OFFICERS FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH (COF) HELD ITS 14TH ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2020 AT THE MARYLAND NATIONAL GOLF CLUB.

Many challenges caused by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic were overcome, and 78 golfers participated in a safe, outdoor environment, all while having a fun time raising money for COF. The event featured involvement from multiple sponsors. The event was kicked off by the singing of the National Anthem by Caleb Green, who recently competed on America's Got Talent with his group Voices of Service. After all groups finished their golf round, they retreated to Schroyer's Tavern for a boxed lunch of chicken, ribs, and corn on the cob. During the lunch, numerous awards and raffle prizes were given out including cash to the top three teams. The tournament raised over $6,000, thanks to all of those involved, including the many local businesses that donated prizes.

WE ESPECIALLY THANK OUR PLATINUM SPONSORS:

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- Planned Systems International
- DeConti Plastic Surgery
- USAA
- VersaTech
- Mullins CPA
- Henry Schein
- Military & Health Research Foundation
- Mission BBQ Hagerstown
- Monster Energy

Platinum sponsor Sophia Tong, CEO of T&T Consulting Services (front), enjoying a fun day of fundraising for a good cause.

2020 -2021 FOUNDATION DONORS

FOUNDER'S SOCIETY ($5,000-$9,999)

CAPT Amy Barkin

PLATINUM ($1,000-$2,499)

RADM Suzanne Dahlman

Amazon Smile Foundation

Ms. Jouhra (Ti) Chelikowsky

CAPT Janet Clear

RADM Gary Hartz

RADM Newton Kendig

CAPT Deborah Levy

CAPT Eugene Migliaccio

CAPT James Minor

RADM Kenneth Moritsugu

RADM Steven Solomon

RADM Linda Tollefson

RADM Robert Whitney

CAPT Janet Wildeboor

GOLD ($500-$999)

CAPT Mark Anderson

CAPT Maria Benke

Mr. Brett Cosor

Mr. Stephen Deming

Mr. John DiMaggio

CAPT George Durgin

LCDR Alyssa Fine

RADM Marlene Haffner

CAPT William Haffner

CAPT Richard Hoops

RADM Van Hubbard

CAPT Laurencia Liebmann

CAPT Hugh Mainzer

CAPT Mehran Massoudi

RADM Helena Mishoe

CAPT Philip Nyberg

RADM Sven Rodenbeck

RADM Richard Rubendall

RADM Paul Seligman

Dr. Thomas Tarpley

Ms. Bettilou Taylor

CAPT Joyce Watson

SILVER ($250-$499)

Dr. Laurent Adler

CAPT Sarah Arnold

CAPT Rebecca Ashery

CAPT Sammie Beam

CAPT Linda Brown

Mrs. Theresa Chelikowsky

CAPT Dean Coppola

CAPT Thomas DeCaro

RADM James Eagen

CAPT David Ellison

Mr. Sheldon Feldman

RADM James Graham

CAPT Ferdinand Hassler

CAPT Charles Helmick

CDR Craig Kluger

RADM Boris Lushniak

CDR Sandra Magera

RADM Robert Mecklenburg

CAPT Kathleen Morse

CAPT David Taylor

RADM Robert Williams

CAPT Steven Wolf

RADM Dawn Wyllie

2020 -2021 FOUNDATION DONORS

BRONZE ($100-$249)

CDR Michael Ahmadi

CAPT Anton Allen

CAPT David Alton

CAPT Timothy Ames

RADM Leonard Bachman

CAPT James Banta

CAPT William Beck

CAPT Francis Behan

CAPT Hollie Benson

CAPT Ira Berkower

CAPT Gary Blache

CAPT Shirley Blakely

RADM Susan Blumenthal

RADM Richard Bohrer

CAPT Alejo Borrero-Hernandez

CAPT Mark Bryant

CAPT Pamela Brye

CAPT Lynn Bullard

CAPT Emil Cekada

CAPT Donna Chandler

CAPT Andrew Chen

CAPT Raymond Clark

CAPT Kellie Clelland

RADM Robert Collins

ADM Felicia Collins

CDR Maurna Complita

CDR Helen Cox

CAPT David Cramer

CAPT Michael Crutcher

CAPT Jonathan Dando

CAPT Beverly Dandridge

CAPT Winston Dean

Mrs. Carol Dellapenna

CDR Alexei Desatoff

CAPT Robert Dick

CAPT James Dickens

Mr. John Dixon

CAPT Glen Drew

RADM Michelle Dunwoody

RADM James Erickson

CAPT Celeste Evans

CAPT Leland Fairbanks

RADM Henry Falk

CAPT James Felsen

CAPT Michael Flanagan

CAPT Jerome Fleg

CAPT Bruce Furness

CAPT Mitchell Gail

CAPT Stephen Garza

CDR Rebecca Geiger

Ms. Michele Gora

CAPT Yvonne Green

CAPT Randall Haigh

CAPT Michelle Hall

RADM Christopher Halliday

CAPT J. Terrell Hoffeld

RADM Deborah Hopson

CAPT Walter Hunter

CAPT DeLoris Hunter

CAPT Carl Huntley

CAPT Mary Ingram

CDR Julian Jolly

CAPT Pauline Jones

CAPT James Justice

2020 -2021 FOUNDATION DONORS

RADM Douglas Kamerow
CAPT Arthur Kawatachi
CAPT Geoffrey Keeler
CDR James Kenney
CAPT David Kerschner
CAPT Herbert Klein
CAPT Michael Kopcho
CAPT Bernadine Kuchinski
CAPT Matthew Kuehnert
CAPT Laura LaBranche
CAPT Mary Lambert
CDR Timothy Lape
CAPT Stephen Lieberman
CAPT Clara Lin
CAPT Michael Long
CAPT William Lotz
RADM William Maas
CAPT Patricia Mail
CAPT Gilda Martoglio
CAPT Martin McCarthy
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CAPT Sara Newman
CDR Denise Norman
CAPT Patricia Pettis
CAPT Joseph Piffat
CAPT Raleigh Putnam
LCDR Sandra Redsteer
RADM Paul Reed
CAPT Lisa Rider
CAPT David Robbins
CAPT Patrice Robins
Ms. Sonia Robinson
CAPT David Royston
CAPT Richard Rutledge
CAPT Walter Schaffer
CAPT Walter Sekiya
CAPT David Shoffner
CAPT Jill Shugart
CAPT J. Gary Sirmons
CAPT Ronald Speedy
CAPT Leo Stander
CAPT John Sundell
CAPT Wilnetta Sweeting
CAPT Richard Taffet
CAPT Robert Taylor
CDR Hamet Toure
CAPT Richard Truitt
CAPT John Van Der Decker
CAPT Geswaldo Verrone
CAPT Gerald Vurek
CAPT Susannah Wargo
CAPT Charles Weber
CAPT Bruce Weintraub
CAPT Charles Westley

2020 -2021 FOUNDATION DONORS

CAPT Diahann Williams

RADM Deborah Wilson

RADM Webster Young

CAPT Theodore Ziegler

FRIENDS ($25 TO $99)

CAPT Corwin Strong

CAPT Robert Taylor

CAPT Jacqueline Thomas

CAPT James Thompson

CAPT Sally Thompson

CDR Pieter Van Horn

LCDR Jared Vega

CDR Geoffrey Wachs

CAPT Anthony Warchut

CDR Emily Watchman

CAPT David West

Mr. John Wilkens

CAPT Jennifer Williams

Ms. Judy Williams

CAPT Wynona Woolf

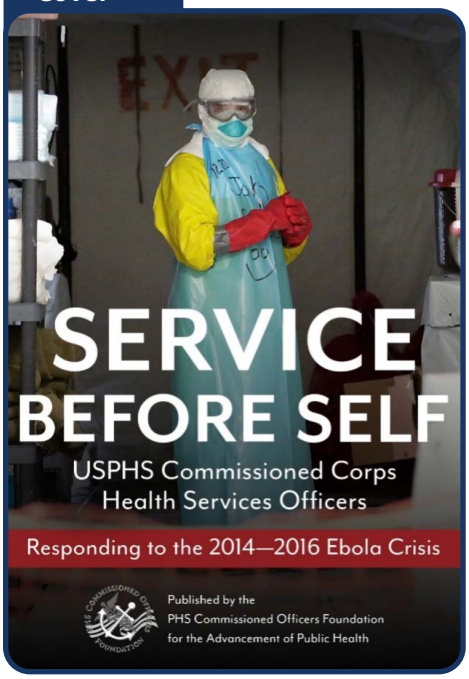
CAPT Michael Yavarow

Mr. Jingsong Zhou

PRESERVATION **OF HERITAGE**

IN APRIL, 2021, THE PHS COMMISSIONED OFFICERS FOUNDATION PUBLISHED THE BOOK *SERVICE BEFORE SELF: USPHS COMMISSIONED CORPS HEALTH SERVICE OFFICERS* RESPONDING TO THE 2014-2016 EBOLA CRISIS. TO DATE, OVER 100 COPIES HAVE BEEN SOLD. THE BOOK CAN BE PURCHASED AT WWW.LULU.COM.

Cover



Forward

Everyone deserves to know about the Commissioned Corps of the US Public Health Service. So much of our country's public health—from just before the turn of the 20th century until the present day—has been impacted by this relatively small but mighty force of uniformed service officers.

In 2014, during the worst Ebola outbreak in documented history, the Commissioned Corps was called upon to respond. In arguably the most visible mission, the White House and National Security Council tasked the Corps to deploy to Liberia and create the Monrovia Medical Unit (MMU), staffing it with providers until Ebola was stopped at its source. It was a rare opportunity to help prevent a potential global pandemic and truly showcase our varied expertise and adaptability in an austere environment outside our nation's borders. It was also one of the first times in history where we as a uniformed service were able to function more independently as equal partners at the table with other essential stakeholders. In addition to the MMU, the Corps was involved in other Ebola-related missions that spanned both domestic and international responsibilities. Multiple missions required complex planning and coordination led by the State Department and the three host countries of Liberia, Sierra Leone, and Guinea. Partners included the Department of Defense, the World Health Organization, non-governmental organizations, and our colleagues in the Department of Health and Human Services and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The Commissioned Corps Ebola response and the specific skill sets inherent to our Health Services Officers (HSOs) across all missions illuminated the bridges they can build with expertise in so many areas. Their ability to be nimble and flexible in response, to demonstrate resilience, to be culturally fluent, and to exemplify sheer passion amidst limited resources and training was admirable.

This collection of personal accounts represents a critical part of a larger team effort. These accounts should be treasured. I literally trusted many of them with our lives and personally relied on so many of them to fill essential roles. Because of their individual and collective courage and resilience, hundreds of new providers and responders followed into key areas of Liberia, which helped turn the tide of the Ebola response in West Africa. To each of the HSOs that successfully deployed, and to all the other officers that contributed directly (and indirectly) to the response, . . . bravo zulu! You will go down in our Corps' history with pride and distinction.

RADM Scott Giberson
Assistant U.S. Surgeon General
Commander, Commissioned Corps Ebola Response

PROJECT AND RESEARCH SUPPORT
BARCLAY-GIEL SEED GRANTS

In 2018, the Commissioned Officers Foundation (COF) received an unrestricted $4.6 million gift from the estate of Martha Barclay-Giel, a retired Captain in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service. To honor her legacy of advancing the health of Americans, the COF Board decided to establish a seed grant program in support of the Surgeon General's public health priorities.

Barclay-Giel Seed Grants were awarded to twenty-seven initiatives including sixteen in the fall of 2020 and eleven in the spring of 2021. Individual awards ranged from $4,000 to $10,000 for a total of $125,804 (Fall 2020) and $98,898 (Spring 2021). Projects were funded to address a wide number of issues to advance public health and the health of communities.

FALL 2020 RECIPIENTS:

- **Benton Franklin Recovery Coalition** (WA) – Support comprehensive addiction recovery.
- **Boys & Girls Club of Greater Salt Lake** (UT) – Provide access to behavioral health resources.
- **City of New Orleans Health Department** (LA) – Establish safe routes to school through a crossing guard program.
- **Community Choice Action Health Partners** (WA) – Reduce stroke/TIA hospital readmissions.
- **Community Health Coalition** (NC) – Prevent and reduce the use of tobacco products by young people.
- **Healthy Alaska Natives Foundation** (AK) – Increase rural youth ATV safety knowledge and practices.
- **Morgan County Substance Abuse Council** (IN) – Educate youth about the dangers of e-cigarettes, vaping and hookahs.
- **North Carolinians Against Gun Violence** (NC) – Address the use of unsecured guns and provide training on safe storage.
- **Oklahoma City Indian Clinic** (OK) – Provide peri-/prenatal, newborn education.
- **Safe Kids Kansas** (KS) – Support safe sleep practices and environments.
- **St Mary's Health Clinics** (MN) –Build capacity to provide oral health education and care services.
- **Staten Island NFP Association, Inc.** (NY) – Enhance outreach and education related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **The Village Community Garden and Learning Center** (MN) – Support opportunities to grow culturally relevant food.
- **Tri-County Health Departmen**t (CO) – Strengthen healthy food access through farmers markets.
- **Volunteers of America, Utah** (UT) – Provide substance use prevention education for youth.
- **Waypoint Foundation, Inc.** (FL) – Support grade school access to mobile dental health care services.

BARCLAY-GIEL SEED GRANTS CONTINUED

SPRING 2021 RECIPIENTS:

- **Adaptive Athletics** (AL) – Enhance health promotion in children with disabilities through participation in sports.
- **African Family Health Organization** (PA) –Provide culturally-appropriate COVID-19 messaging in multiple languages to African, Caribbean immigrant and refugee communities.
- **Cahaba Medical Care Foundation** (AL) – Reduce opioid dependence by piloting nonpharmacologic alternatives to pain management.
- **Central Oklahoma American Indian Health Council** (OK) –Promote maternal oral health, blood pressure monitoring and general wellness for pregnant women.
- **Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council** (GA) – Prevent suicide by providing skills-based interventions and resiliency-building training.
- **KinderSmile Foundation** (NJ) – Empower uninsured US Veterans with oral health education.
- **Michael Glynn Memorial Coalition** (SD) – Integrate substance abuse education and fitness promotion in adolescents.
- **Patient Assistance Foundation** (CA) – Address health promotion through screening and disease management in underserved populations.
- **Refugee Dream Center** (RI) – Reduce cultural barriers to health by educating refugees on American approach to healthcare.
- **San Mateo County Health Foundation** (CA) – Promote colorectal cancer/blood pressure screening in Black community.
- **Tuggle Elementary School** (AL) – Target social-emotional and/or behavioral difficulties among students through the building and equipping of calming rooms.

For more information about the Seed Grant program, visit https://www.phscof.org/seed-grants/

INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COLLABORATIVE (IPEC) AWARDS

The year 2021 marked the 5th anniversary of the Public Health Excellence in Interprofessional Education Collaboration (IPEC) Award, which was established to acknowledge and celebrate outstanding multidisciplinary efforts to impact community health. The PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health (COF) and the Interprofessional Education Collaborative (IPEC) were pleased to congratulate the 2021 COF IPEC Award winners and five honorable mention finalists:

2021 IPEC COF Award: Overall Winner: Kean University, Union, New Jersey. "The Effectiveness of Patient Navigation using Motivational Interviewing and m-Health Technology on Patient Activation & Engagement for Self-management Practices in Hypertension and Cardiovascular Disease Risk: A Pilot Study."

2021 IPEC COF Honorable Mention: Health Communications and Health Technology: Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut. "Virtual Interprofessional Education (VIPE)."

2021 IPEC COF Honorable Mention: Behavioral Health: Concordia University Wisconsin, Mequon, Wisconsin. "Safe Seniors In-home Visit Collaboration – Sheboygan County, Wisconsin."

2021 IPEC COF Honorable Mention: Public Health Infrastructure: Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota. "Bridges Health: An Innovative and Replicable Interprofessional Community and Public Health Clinical Education Model Addressing Social Determinants of Health and Advancing Health Equity."

2021 IPEC COF Honorable Mention: Community Empowerment and Education: New York University, New York, New York. "Educating Students Early About Fostering Interprofessional Relationships Focused on Patient-Centered Care to Build Long Lasting Relationships for the Future."

2021 IPEC COF Honorable Mention: At Risk and Vulnerable Communities: University of Illinois Chicago, Chicago, Illinois. "Addressing Healthy Eating and Lifestyles in a Federally Qualified Health Center: An Interprofessional Quality Improvement Project."

All honorees were recognized at a virtual ceremony in conjunction with the Summer 2021 IPEC Member Meeting on June 1, 2021. The COF IPEC in Excellence Award acknowledges many successful examples of interdisciplinary education in health professions education. Nominations were evaluated on the scope and impact of their contributions on community health.

"Our Foundation is very pleased to co-sponsor this award with IPEC in acknowledgement of our shared commitment to interprofessional education and collaborative practice. We know that a team-based approach, integrating the expertise of multiple health professions disciplines is vital to conquering public health problems, from pandemics to chronic diseases to health disparities," said U.S. Public Health Service Rear Admiral (retired) Steve Solomon, MD, FACP, FIDSA, President, COF Board of Trustees.

CONCLUSION/ **LOOKING FORWARD**

What a particularly challenging year 2020-2021 has been. SARS-CoV-2 presented new surges of ever more contagious variants. The COVID-19 pandemic yielded increases in health misinformation and mortality, while American life expectancy declined again in 2020. These threats were compounded when, for the first time in recent memory, we saw leaders in media and elected office question the value of public health.

Still, you rose to the challenge and exceeded the expectations of a grateful nation as you have worked tirelessly to protect and advance public health. You prevented unnecessary hospitalization and death. You maintained our very necessary focus on the Surgeon General's priorities. You deployed to provide much needed support to the deficiencies exposed within our healthcare system by a pandemic. You did a brilliant job serving those among us with the least ability to access healthcare. The Commissioned Officers of the USPHS are American healthcare heroes.

On behalf of the Development and Finance Committees, please know how incredibly grateful we are for the inspiring efforts that Commissioned Corps Officers have undertaken to protect and improve public health.

Somehow, with the enormous demands placed upon your shoulders, you also helped COF to grow our donations by 62%. Your charitable donations to COF enable us to better serve you by investing into advocacy for the mission of USPHS Commissioned Officers, the advancement of public health, and the development of public health leaders.

As you have perused this annual report, we hope that you are pleased with what we have accomplished on your behalf. We expect you to hold us accountable for honoring our mission and would like to hear from you about how we are doing, what we can do better, and what you would like to see us support in the future on behalf of Commissioned Corps Officers and public health.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

We hope to:

- Hold a highly successful 2022 USPHS Scientific & Training Symposium.
- Increase public awareness of the benefits of investment into public health, and the vital role fulfilled by USPHS Commissioned Officers in protecting and advancing public health.
- Expand our support internally to Commissioned Corps officers, and externally to include a greater number of private sector supporters who understand the value of investment into our nation's public health.
- Partner with the Commissioned Officers Association of the USPHS and its members in building public health leadership through advocacy, education, research, partnership, and program support.

Please help us with this mission. Should you be interested in volunteering to serve on one of our committees or as a Trustee, able to make a donation to our foundation, or know of someone or an organization within the private sector who may have interest in supporting the work of the PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation, reach out to our Executive Director, CAPT Jacqueline Rychnovsky, USN (Ret.), or the President of our Foundation, RADM Steve Solomon, USPHS (Ret.).

On behalf of the COF Development Committee, please know how thankful we are for your donation which allows us to promote and improve public health. Your efforts in managing not only your primary duties, but also in helping America to respond to, and recover from, emergencies such as the COVID-19 pandemic, are awe-inspiring.

Thank you for your service to our country, for your support of our foundation, and for everything you do to improve the health and well-being of our nation and the world.

Be Safe & Stay Healthy!

John DiMaggio
Treasurer
Chair, Development Committee