

# USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium

## Pre-Conference Agenda

### Sunday, May 7, 2023

8:00 am - 5:00 pm      Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Training  
CAPT Robin Hunter-Buskey

This course is for American Heart Association (AHA) ACLS initial certification for pre-hospital emergency and hospital employees such as Paramedics, RN's, MD, RTs, or other healthcare providers requiring AHA ACLS certification. This course emphasizes assessment and management of adult cardiac patients and includes BLS proficiency and ACLS written and skills testing. Please bring your hard copy or eBook of the ACLS Provider Manual- available to purchase from AHE -ACLS Provider Manual 20-1106 for \$50 or online-ShopCPR or WorldPoint--digital versions ACLS eBook 20-3100 are available. Books are not returnable, and fees are not refundable. The American Heart Association strongly promotes knowledge and proficiency in all AHA courses and has developed instructional materials for this purpose. Use of these materials in an educational course does not represent course sponsorship by the AHA. Any fees charged for such a course, except for a portion of fees needed for AHA course materials, do not represent income to the AHA. An American Heart Association (AHA) ACLS eCard will be emailed from [eCards@heart.org](mailto:eCards@heart.org) upon successful completion of this course.

#### **Mandatory pre-course preparation includes:**

1. Complete the pre-course checklist that came with your ACLS Provider Manual. Bring the checklist with you to the course.
2. Review the course agenda.
3. Review and understand the information in your ACLS Provider Manual. Pay particular attention to the 10 core cases in Part 4.
4. Review and understand the information in the BLS for Healthcare Providers manual. The resuscitation scenarios require that your BLS skills and knowledge are current. You will be tested on adult 1-rescuer CPR and AED skills at the beginning of the ACLS Provider Course. You will not be taught how to do CPR or how to use an AED. You must know this in advance.
5. Review, understand, and complete the ECG and Pharmacology pre-course assessment tests online-follow the instructions in your book. You will not be taught how to read or interpret ECGs in the course, nor will you be taught details about ACLS pharmacology.

## Sunday, May 7, 2023 (continued)

6. Print your scores for the pre-course assessment tests and bring them with you to class. You will not be able to attend the course without the pre-course assessment tests.

**What This Course Does Not Cover:** The ACLS Provider Course does not teach algorithms, ECG, or pharmacology information. If you do not learn and understand the ECG and pharmacology information in the pre-course assessment tests, it is unlikely that you can successfully complete the ACLS Provider Course.

AHA Books are available to purchase from Channing-Bete.

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Upon completion, students will be able to:

1. Demonstrate proficiency in providing BLS care, including prioritizing chest compressions and integrating use of an AED.
2. Recognize and manage respiratory arrest.
3. Recognize and manage cardiac arrest until termination of resuscitation or transfer of care, including post-cardiac arrest care.

8:00 am - 12:00 pm      **Basic Life Support (BLS) Training**  
                                         **CAPT Jane Kreis**

This course is for initial certification designed for healthcare providers to learn how to save a life. In this course, you will learn how to: Recognize the signals of heart attack and take appropriate actions, perform one and two rescuer CPR, gain early access to Emergency Medical Services (EMS), recognize, and respond to sudden unexpected death, assist a choking adult, child, or infant victim, and perform adult, child, and infant CPR. Students must pass written and skills competency testing to obtain certification. An AHA BLS ecard will be emailed from [ecards@heart.org](mailto:ecards@heart.org) upon successful completion of this course.

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## Sunday May, 7, 2023 (continued)

Upon completion, students will be able to:

1. Promptly recognize several life-threatening emergencies,
2. Give high-quality chest compressions,
3. Deliver appropriate ventilations and provide early use of an AED.

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Opioid Overdose Response and Naloxone Training

CAPT Jane Kreis, LCDR Joshua Hunt

This training is a 90-minute session which includes didactic skills training followed by an online skills demonstration for participants focused on the recognition and response to respiratory arrest related to an opioid overdose, and the intervention using naloxone. Naloxone is a prescription medication that reverses an opioid overdose by restoring breathing and has minimal side effects. Take advantage of this opportunity to learn how to administer naloxone and learn what to do until help arrives. This training includes presentations followed by a demonstration of the administration of naloxone, both intramuscular and intranasal administration.

\*For those who work with or may be exposed to opioids in the workplace, please contact your local Safety Office for any additional training that may be required of you.

Upon completion, students will be able to:

1. Identify risk factors for opioid overdose.
2. Recognize the signs of opioid overdose.
3. Respond effectively to an opioid overdose.
4. Correctly administer intranasal naloxone

## Monday, May 8, 2023 (continued)

8:00 am - 5:00 pm                      Retirement Seminar

**RADM Randall Gardner, LCDR Andrew Okolo, LT Adelaide Rosario, Maria (Luly) Burciaga, Richard Hartley, Jacqueline Rychnovsky, Art Timmins, Heather Walrath**

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### Agenda

|                    |                                                                               |                                                                            |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 8:00-8:05          | Welcome and Introductions                                                     | Jacqueline Rychnovsky, Executive Director, Commission Officers Association |
| 8:05-9:45          | USPHS Retirement Process<br>Retired Pay<br>Terminal Leave<br>Separation Forms | <b>LT</b> Adelaida Rosario, CCHO                                           |
| 9:45-10:00         | Break                                                                         |                                                                            |
| 10:00-10:45        | You and Your Travel                                                           | LCDR Andrew Okolo, CCHO                                                    |
| 10:45-11:45        | Veterans Disability Claims                                                    | Art Timmins, American Legion                                               |
| <b>11:45-12:45</b> | Lunch                                                                         |                                                                            |
| 12:45-1:30         | TRICARE                                                                       | Maria (Luly) Burciaga,<br>Health Net Federal Services                      |
| <b>1:30-2:30</b>   | Survivor Benefit Program<br>TSP Pre-Separation Brief                          | Heather Walrath, Navy Mutual                                               |
| 2:30-2:45          | Break                                                                         |                                                                            |
| 2:45-3:45          | Federal Dental and Vision Insurance (FEDVIP)                                  | Richard Hartley,<br>FEDPOINTDental                                         |
| 3:45-4:00          | O&A/Closing Remarks                                                           | RADM Randall Gardner, USPHS (Ret.)                                         |
| 4:00-5:00          | One-on-one financial counseling                                               | <b>LT</b> Adelaida Rosario, CCHO                                           |

## Monday, May 8, 2023 (continued)

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Leadership Seminar

The aim of this workshop is to introduce alternative approaches to leader development for mid-level and senior USPHS Commissioned Officers across all disciplines, with faculty backgrounds including a former public health dean and faculty member; a facilitator, consultant and health policy expert; a university president; an associate dean of applied public health; a former acting surgeon general of the United States; and a former chief medical officer, USPHS.

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### Schedule

0830- 0900 'Introduction to the Leadership Workshop and the Interagency Institute for Federal Health Leaders' - Dr. Richard Southby

0900-1000 'Learning as Leadership' - Dr. Josef Reum

1015-1045 'A University President's Perspective on Developing Leaders' - Dr. Sylvia Trent-Adams

1045-1115 'Educating Future Public Health Leaders' - Dr. Gene Migliaccio

1115-1200 Small Groups

1200-1300 Lunch

1300-1400 'Lessons on Leadership: USPHS and Academia' - Dr. Boris Lushniak

1415-1515 'Leading into the Future' - Dr. David Goldman

1515-1600 Small Groups

1600-1630 Review and Wrap Up

At the end of this session, attendees will be able to:

1. Explain the differences between leadership and management in an organization.
2. Discuss adaptive leadership and how it relates to their approach to the performance of duties.
3. Describe behaviors that have a positive impact on successful transitioning from junior to mid-level to senior leadership positions

## Monday, May 8, 2023 (continued)

8:00 am - 5:00 pm                      Health Equity Seminar

CAPT Wanda Finch, CAPT Anthony Johnson, CDR Sean Bennett, CDR Melissa Hagen, LCDR Lorener Brayboy, LCDR Sheila Houghton-Antonucci, LCDR Janetta Mpofu, LCDR Jorge Muniz Ortiz, LT Johanna Paillet-Growl

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This session will incorporate three presentations:

### Facing the Rising Sun, Recognizing and Addressing Health Disparities and Inequities as USPHS Officers

Systematic racism and social inequities have long contributed to differential health access, quality, and outcomes, with people of color and marginalized communities frequently experiencing negative impact of these structures. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Institutes of Health, and American Public Health Association have all declared racism to be a public health crisis, requiring immediate intervention. "Facing the Rising Sun, Recognizing and Addressing Health Disparities and Inequities as USPHS Officers" will be dedicated to equipping PHS officers with essential tools to address health disparities and inequities through their service in the Commissioned Corps. The program will be divided into three sessions. The first session will lay the foundation, delving into the history of racism in medicine and public health, the current landscape of health disparities in the US, and the intersectionality of race/ethnicity and other social and structural determinants of health. The second session will include three breakouts focused on different ways in which officers confront and address health disparities through their service. Each breakout will include a panel of officers working in various public health fields - including officers working on the frontlines as clinical service providers for vulnerable populations, scientists addressing health disparities through research, and officers experienced with delivering large-scale public health programs to reduce health disparities. The third and final session will focus on addressing inequities in the workplace. Tools that will help officers to recognize and address implicit bias and microaggressions will be provided. A panel session will be delivered by officers experienced with supporting diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in PHS and our host agencies. Speakers for these sessions will include junior and senior officers from a wide range of categories and agencies, all with a passion for health equity.

### In Officio Salutis: Best Practices to Operationalize Service of Health Through Health Equity

Background/Problem

The world stopped when COVID-19 spread rapidly and the pandemic has claimed over 1M

## Monday, May 8, 2023 (continued)

deaths in the United States. For the last two years, mental health and behavioral health services have been on the rise as individuals across the life span seek care and services to meet their unique needs. Untreated mental health and behavioral health conditions only worsen over time and complicates the health of those living with chronic health conditions. Working within interdisciplinary teams, social workers were tasked in addressing safety within the workplace, while also tackling the comprehensive medical, social, and psychological needs of patients and their families. As frontline workers, social workers were educators, advocates, and clinicians during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure equitable access to supports necessary for anyone to attain the highest and optimal health as much as possible.

### Methods/Project or Program Description

This program will provide an overview of clinical social work practice in support of a local military health system and identify best practices in working within inter-disciplinary teams and providing person-centered care. The session will also include program adjustments in the age of COVID-19 and supporting vulnerable populations and fellow team members.

### Results/Lessons Learned

Key points of interest include standard practices to gather information details to aid in the delivery of care; execution of a person-centered approach to ensure care is properly transitioned and implemented effectively; and integration of crisis response services in collaboration with multidisciplinary team.

### Conclusions/Recommendation or Next Steps

The COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the critical role of social workers, who as frontline workers, promoted public health education, provided emotional support through grief and loss work, addressed behavioral needs, and advocated for individuals and families' access to resources during uncertain times and within high-risk environments. The contributions of social work profession were integral during the COVID19 pandemic.

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[Advancing a diverse U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps to promote cultural humility and health equity](#)

The Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service (USPHS) is made up of ethnically and racially diverse officers. Based on the 2020 USPHS demographic data, among the 59% of officers who identify as non-white, 12% identify as Black of non-Hispanic origin, 9% identify as Asian or Pacific Islander, 6% identify as American Indian or Alaskan Native, 4% identify as

## Monday, May 8, 2023 (continued)

Hispanic, and 28% identify as of unknown ethnic origin. USPHS has had a sustained commitment to providing equal opportunities to minorities within its ranks. This commitment to diversity is evident by the officers who comprise the Minority Officers Liaison Council (MOLC) that was established in 1990 by the U.S. Surgeon General and the USPHS. The purpose of the MOLC is to advise and serve the Office of the Surgeon General on issues of professional development and to advocate for the recognition of contributions made by minority officers in the USPHS. The MOLC is made up of four Chartered Minority Advisory Groups (CMAGs): American Indian/Alaska Native Commissioned Officer Advisory Committee (AI/ANCOAC), Asian Pacific American Officers Committee (APAOC), Black Commissioned Officers Advisory Group (BCOAG), and Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee (HOAC). In April 2022, the MOLC established a Cultural Awareness Workgroup to provide a platform for all CMAGs to collaborate and support a diverse and inclusive USPHS community.

During this workshop, the MOLC Cultural Awareness Workgroup in collaboration with the four CMAGs will provide a joint presentation to share information about the diversity within USPHS, CMAG organizations and their initiatives to promote cultural awareness, and the establishment of the Cultural Ambassador Program. In addition, the CMAGs will provide a roundtable discussion on building engagement and allyship through cultural humility. As the USPHS Commissioned Corps evolves to meet growing challenges and to achieve our critical mission, cultural humility is essential for all of us. Cultural humility is especially integral for our collaborative work, whether it be for Agency duties, deployments, or USPHS activities to support the Surgeon General's priorities. How we listen to one another's ideas and understand each other's perspective are important to achieving our collective goals as USPHS Officers.

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At the end of this session, attendees will be able to:

1. Describe the general health equity landscape in the United States and the historic and current contributors to health disparities.
2. Explain best practices to ensure equitable access to care in the medical setting and upon discharge.
3. Discuss how to build engagement and allyship through cultural humility.



## Monday, May 8, 2023 (continued)

8:00 am - 5:00 pm                      CPH Exam Review Session

Ms. Allison Foster

Professional board certifications are essential to Commissioned Corps officer of the U.S. Public Health Service and may improve the conditions of service, ensure Basic Readiness, and result in Special Pay and/or promotion.

The Certified in Public Health (CPH) is the certification for which all members of the U.S. Public Health service are eligible.\*\*\*

To date, more than 11,000 professionals have become Certified in Public Health and over 500 members of the U.S. Public Health Service have applied to become Certified in Public Health. Because of the increasing interest in the CPH, we are offering an all-day review session to prepare Commissioned Corps Officers to take the CPH exam. Presenters with real-world experience and familiarity with the CPH exam will present an overview of at least five of the domains of the exam. They will also provide study tips and general information about what to expect while taking the exam.

At the end of this session, attendees will be able to:

1. Describe eligibility requirement for the CPH exam.
2. Identify three study resources for the CPH exam.
3. List the components of maintenance of certification (MOC) for CPH professionals.

8:00 am - 12:00 pm                      Promotion Preparation Workshop

CAPT Ulgen Fideli, LCDR Michelle Barbosa, LT Kyle Knight, LT Lance Pittman

This session is hosted by the staff of the Personnel and Career Management Branch (PCMB) from Commissioned Corps Headquarters (CCHO), the team will provide guidance on multiple topics. The session will benefit an assortment of audience members including:

- Officers up for promotion
- Officers yearning to learn about the promotion process
- Supervisors, agencies coordinators, and liaisons to deepen their knowledge and increase their ability to support their officers.

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Information that will be covered includes:

- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Commissioned Officers' Effectiveness Report (COER)
- Reviewing Officials Statement (ROS)
- Officer's Statement (OS)
- Officer Promotion Package Verification System (OPPVS)
- PHS Awards Process and Narratives

8:00 am - 12:00 pm            Opioid Overdoes Response and Naloxone Training  
                                         CAPT Jane Kreis, LCDR Joshua Hunt

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## Monday, May 8, 2023 (continued)

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Implementing the Workplace Mental Health and Well-Being Framework**  
**CAPT Shary Jones, CDR Garrett Martin-Yeboah, LCDR Jamillah Bynum,**

Our places of employment have an immense impact on our lives. In 2022, the Surgeon General released the Framework for Workplace Mental Health and Well-Being. Using the Framework as a guide, participants will spend the day in an interactive session designed to explore the Framework's foundation that officers on the ground can build upon within their places of work. The session will cover how to create healthy workplaces by exploring actual implementation of the Framework used within SAMHSA's Center for Mental Health Services for critique. **Registration fee for pre-conference courses covers Cox Business Convention Center catered meal and convention center provided audio-visual services and support. Fee is not attributable to CCHQ.**

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Basic Life Support (BLS) Training**  
**CAPT Jane Kreis**

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3. Deliver appropriate ventilations and provide early use of an AED.

1:00 pm - 5:00 pm

**Military Customs, Courtesies, and Culture**

The purpose of this session is to ensure that USPHS officers maintain and utilize a high level of knowledge on military customs, courtesies, and culture.

## **Monday, May 8, 2023 (continued)**

This session will review the US armed forces and our service in addition to highlighting understanding military culture through an experiential lens. A panel of officers will share their real-life stories of successful and challenging experiences. Oral, written, and visual teachings will be provided to foster proficiency in demonstrating military customs and courtesies in all situations. Officers will leave with an increased level of confidence to interface with any service member.

At the end of this session, attendees will be able to:

1. Apply the basic principles and concepts related to the Corps and Health and Human Services, Officership, and order and discipline.
2. Utilize military customs and courtesies correctly on deployments, in trainings, on military installations, and when engaging with fellow service members (including rankings).
3. Demonstrate proper uniformed appearance and grooming standards, muster, attention, parade rest, saluting, etc.

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