



# SWPAG NEWSLETTER

VOLUME IV, ISSUE II

JUNE 2012

## 2012 USPHS Junior and Senior Social Workers of the Year !

### CDR Dwayne Buckingham: 2012 Senior Social Worker Award of the Year!

*CDR Dwayne Buckingham was awarded the 2012 USPHS Senior Social Worker of the Year for the following accomplishments/achievements...*

- providing individual, family, group and couples therapy to over 607 OIF/OEF wounded warriors and other eligible beneficiaries who receive treatment at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center (WRNMMC)
- educating disadvantaged populations
- Presenting a positive and professional image as a USPHS officer
- Leading a roundtable discussion entitled, "Leadership: Mid-Career and Senior Officer Expectations" during Health Services Category Day at the 2011 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium
- conducting human trafficking training for 150 PHS officers during the July 2011 Operation Lone Star Field Training Exercise in South Texas
- empowering junior officers and has demonstrated his dedication by mentoring five junior PHS officers.
- acting in the role of relationship expert and providing marital therapy to distressed couples
- providing clinical supervision to psychiatry and psychology residents
- providing supervision to three substance abuse counselors for completion of 90 evaluations and 20 residential placements
- conducting resiliency training for 40 Chief Petty Officers during challenging Walter Reed/Bethesda integration.
- developing a multi-disciplinary treatment documentation protocol for 60 personnel which successfully addressed and corrected inspection write-ups by Joint Commission
- providing treatment planning training for 40 staff at the Adult Outpatient Behavioral Clinic
- publishing in the Social Work Professional Advisory Group (SWPAG) newsletter in June 2011
- conducting burnout prevention training to over 50 PHS officers at 2011 USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium

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June 27  
September 12  
December 12

SWPAG Newsletter  
created by  
LCDR Julie Niven, LCSW



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# from the *SWPAG Chair*

The most recent threats against the Corps as an essential component of the largest public health program in the world have caused Corps leadership to focus on the “five pillars” we have heard about since the Assistant Secretary for Health introduced them last year. Not only do these pillars affect how new officers are brought on board, but they serve to define the Commissioned Corps of the future. The first pillar concerns serving the needs of vulnerable or medically underserved populations. If this pillar alone is not a reason to bring more social workers aboard, I don’t know what is.

Unfortunately, our profession has been forced into a box by appointment standards and personnel policies that recognize clinicians as the only social workers who have a legitimate role to play in today’s Commissioned Corps. Ignored are other practice areas in which social workers can be particularly effective in achieving the Corps’ mission: policy, program management, research, administration, advocacy, and education, to name a few. Within our multidisciplinary Corps we must be ready to clearly articulate how social workers possess a unique set of skills, knowledge, and values that make us particularly well-suited for a wide range of billets.

### **This is where SWPAG comes in...**

In the last issue I described the white paper we are working on to help educate Corps leadership about the profession. I hope that this will go a long way toward addressing some of the issues we deal with on a regular basis. As we prepare this document, however, I am calling on each SWPAG member to step back a bit and remember what we were taught in our professional social work education regarding social work practice. As a group, let’s promote social workers as uniquely qualified and effective change agents for the vulnerable and underserved in whatever billet we happen to occupy.

...*CDR Todd Lennon*



1-800-451-4000  
www.coausphs.org



This month I would like to use my little corner as a leg-up onto my soapbox to talk about the importance of joining COA. For those who are not members, Jerry Farrell, the Executive Director of the Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service, is a true champion of the USPHS mission, vision and cause. I know of no one who goes to bat for us and is more vocal in championing our cause as PHS officers like this retired Navy man. COA is our one and only professional association. Membership dues are based on rank and are well worth the benefits that the organization provides us in return. Some of the COA’s most recent Capitol Hill representation includes working to extend GI bill benefits transferability to dependents, working to dispute the claim that PHS officer are not cost effective compared to civil service employees and the National Disaster Medical System, seeking answers about the question of furloughing of PHS officers in the event of a government shut-down, following up on the change created by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that makes all reserve officers regular officers, etc. Believe me, this is just the tip of the iceberg! In addition to being the sponsor of our yearly conference - USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium - COA offers a multitude of other benefits. If you are not a member, please consider becoming one and encouraging others to join as well. It’s paramount that we support those who support us! For more information, visit, please visit <http://www.coausphs.org/index.cfm>

....*LCDR Julie Niven*

...Continued from page 1

Other Specific Notable Accomplishments:

- LCDR Buckingham has published three self-help books, produced two educational documentaries and launched an annual three day community empowerment event for African Americans entitled, "R.E.A.L. Love Celebration". His first annual R.E.A.L. Love Celebration kicked-off at the Tivoli Theatre on March 24, 2011 in St. Louis, Missouri with the film premiere of "A Black Woman's Worth: My Queen and Backbone." CDR Buckingham appeared on NBC, ABC and Fox news to discuss his film premiere.
- CDR Buckingham participated in 2011 Teen Summit held on May 7, 2011 by Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority. He conducted a mental health presentation for 40 disadvantaged male youth.

Recent Educational Accomplishments:

- Doctorate in Human Services, November 2011

Awards and Recognition:

- 6 Commendation medals
- Global War on Terrorism Service Medal
- Special Assignment Award
- Unit Commendation
- 4 Outstanding Unit Awards
- National Defense Service Medical
- Recognition certificate from Rear Admiral M.L. Nathan, the Commander of National Naval Medical Center
- Recognition letter from the Command Master Chief of WRNMMC
- Coin from Rear Admiral Nessler
- Certificate of appreciation from work at 2011 Teen Summit 2011

**LCDR Jonathan White:  
2012 Junior Social Worker Award of the Year!**

*LCDR Jonathan White was awarded the 2012 USPHS Senior Social Worker of the Year for the following accomplishments/achievements...*

- Serving as the Team Lead for Strategic Partnerships and Community resilience within the Administration for Children and Families' Office of Human Services Emergency Preparedness and Response (ACF/OHSEPR)
- Assuming leadership roles with significant positive impacts for ACF, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Commissioned Corps and his recommendations and ideas have informed decisions by me as Director, OHSEPR, and by HHS senior leadership
- Serving as an ambassador for the Commissioned Corps in an HHS Operating Division
- Demonstrating excellent cultural competence in the organizational culture of ACF
- Presenting a positive USPHS professional image
- Advancing the mission by teaching a module on At Risk Individuals and Populations in Disasters at the Officer Basic Course
- Serving as the Secretary of the Social Work Professional Advisory Group in 2011
- Mentoring peers
- Advising senior leaders from HHS and partner agencies

... Continued on page 5

# Traumatic Brain Injury Awareness

*LCDR Teresa Baptiste, LCSW-BCD  
Camp Shelby, MS*



The month of March is traumatic brain injury awareness month. Military healthcare organizations throughout Department of Defense will be making efforts to advertise traumatic brain injuries, prevention, symptoms and treatments during March. LCDR Theresa Baptiste is the officer in charge of the behavior health section of the medical task force Shelby at Camp Shelby Mississippi. The section provides behavior health and mild traumatic brain injury screening to soldiers mobilizing through Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center (CSJFTC). The behavior health section also provides a range of behavior health supportive services to military personnel at CSJFTC who are active-duty soldier station on post in support of the overseas contingency operation.

Mr. Larry Phipps is a certified physician assistant in the behavior health section. Mr. Phipps is the point of contact for the mTBI section at Camp Shelby. He primarily performed the history taking, neurologic and cognitive portions of the mTBI exam. Since Mr. Phipps has been at the medical task force, he has trained the other healthcare providers to perform a complete evaluation for concussion. He has trained the other providers to perform a detailed neurologic evaluation and implemented a cognitive worksheet to assist in the evaluation of the brain's functioning. "We document a detailed history of the persons injury, perform a cognitive exam and complete neurologic exam along with other testing is needed to formulate a diagnosis said Phipps. We then make a decision as to what the soldier's treatment should be. Soldiers are either recommended for outpatient treatment or referred to Medical Treatment Facility's to accommodate more significant injury and effects said Phipps..

Mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI) is a medical condition that affects the brain's functioning. It is also known as a concussion. The terms mild traumatic brain injury and concussions are used interchangeably. A common diagnoses is that of head injury with a temporary disruption of brain function which may cause a variety of physical, emotional and cognitive symptoms. Common causes of concussions in children may be related to sports injury or bicycle accidents. Common causes in adults would be falls or motor vehicle accidents. For many soldiers in overseas combat zone, it is often caused by an injury related to a blast from in improvised explosive device (IED) or mortar round. Physical symptoms of concussion may include headaches, dizziness, balance disorder or sleep disturbance among others. Common cognitive symptoms of concussion may include difficulty paying attention, difficulty concentrating, short term memory deficits and disruptions of executive functions. Common behavior/emotional symptoms may include depression, anxiety, agitation, irritability or impulsive.

It is important that all persons suspected of having a concussion be evaluated by a health care provider to determine the severity of their injury. Even though most concussions will heal well, more specialized treatment is needed for others. Concussions should be treated in a timely manner and rest is very important to facilitate the healing process. After being diagnosed with a concussion, your healthcare provider will best advise you on when you or your child should return to work or sports. Returning to physical exertional activities too soon may expose you to subsequent concussion(s). Returning to mental exertional activities and physical activities too soon may result in more severe symptoms, interfere with the healing process and may result in permanent damage. "The sooner a person is evaluated and treated, the more likely the brain will heal 100%," said Phipps." Most symptoms completely resolve in days to weeks however, some symptoms may persist for a bit longer. Persistent symptoms are seldom permanent and usually resolve with outpatient care. Mortality rate is almost zero.

Prevention is the key to avoiding concussions / mTBI. Wearing seatbelts and taking measures to prevent falls are important in reducing the number of concussions. Wearing protective athletic headgear helps to prevent concussions and certainly aid in decreasing the severity of the injury. Soldiers riding in armored vehicles and properly wearing their protective headgear provide significant protection of their most protected asset (their brain). To contact MTFs TBI and the behavioral department, call 601-558-2620.

...Continued from page 3

- Providing trainings and presentations in clinical social work at area hospitals and professional associations
- Acting as an Associate Investigator in a National Institutes of Health clinical study of psychosocial healing in terminally ill patients
- Co-authoring a forthcoming article on disaster human services in a textbook on disaster nursing
- Acting as the ACF liaison to the USPHS mission in support of ACF's Disaster Case Management (DCM) mission in response to Irene/Lee flooding in New York, LCDR White designed a DCM training for Commissioned Officers, provided the training to 123 USPHS Officers and 8 contractors, and facilitated the PHS Officers' mission on a 24/7 basis through 5 rotations of Officers. To date, he has trained more individuals to be disaster case managers than any other Federal employee
- Identifying a need for a briefing/situational awareness product to keep HHS and FEMA leadership informed of human services infrastructure status and human services needs in disaster events. The briefing tool he created and produced in disasters including the Joplin tornado and Hurricane Irene fulfilled a previously unmet need and won praise in writing from HHS leaders including the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, and the Director of Operations for the Emergency Management Group
- Forging relationships between ACF and other Federal agencies including ASPR, the Department of Education, and FEMA to work on issues including youth preparedness, domestic violence in disasters, child care and Head Start readiness, and reunification of children with families following disasters
- Briefing U.S. Senate Committees on the HHS role in human services in disasters and on HHS progress in meeting the needs of children in disasters



# Meet Your SWPAG Subcommittee Chairs!

*...to help everyone get to know each  
other a little better ...*



**CDR Todd Lennon, Chair, SWPAG** is a public health advisor and deputy emergency coordinator in the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Continuity of Operations at the Health Resources and Services Administration. His work is focused on policy development and the coordination of internal and external information flows to prepare for and manage emergent and public health events. Prior to his assignment to HRSA, CDR Lennon served three years in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response. Prior to joining the Commissioned Corps in 2007, CDR Lennon served 18 years on staff at the Council on Social Work Education.

In addition to serving as SWPAG chair, CDR Lennon serves as executive secretary of the Health Services Professional Advisory Committee. He enjoys mentoring junior officers and social work students and is active in many other Commissioned Corps activities.

CDR Lennon earned a BSW degree from the University of Wyoming in 1987 and an MSSW degree from the University of Louisville in 1988. He is currently studying for a DHSc degree from Nova Southeastern University. CDR Lennon lives in Rockville, MD with his wife of 20 years and their four daughters.

## LCDR Tracy Pace, SWPAG Career Development Subcommittee

is a Senior Public Health Analyst in the Office of Policy and Program Development with HRSA's Health Center Program. Prior to assuming this position I served as a Project Officer responsible for monitoring \$25 million in grants and cooperative agreements and providing technical assistance to health centers in Boston and Cape Cod, Massachusetts. I came to HRSA in 2006 as a HRSA Scholar and prior to that I worked for the Washington, DC government's Child and Family Services Agency first as a Social Worker and then as an Inspector and Licensing Specialist. Prior to receiving my MSW from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor in 2001 I was a Peace Corps volunteer in the Republic of Benin, West Africa.

I was commissioned as an officer with the PHS in 2007. I am currently a member of SAT-3, serve as the SWPAG Career Development Subcommittee chair and serve as the Parklawn building Point of Contact for Commissioned Corps "rank" coins (contact: [tpace@hrsa.gov](mailto:tpace@hrsa.gov)). I am a mentor to a Washington, DC youth and I volunteer as a counselor on Friday mornings with a Washington, DC day program for patients with severe mental illness. I live in Silver Spring, Maryland.





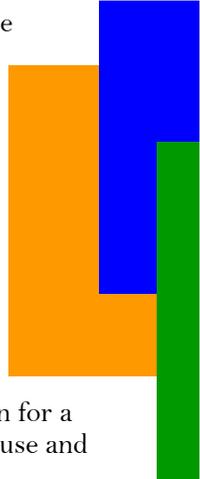
**CDR Carol Ivy Simmons, SWPAG Policy Subcommittee...**

- \* Current duty station: Office of the Secretary (OS), Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR)
- \* Duty Title: Hospital Preparedness Programs-Project Officer
- \* Oversees Disaster Preparedness and Planning Programs for Region VI states and U. S. Territories-Pacific Islands
- \* Previously served as Behavioral Health Director at HRSA Federally Qualified Health Center
- \* SWPAG Mentor
- \* SWPAG Chair-Policy Sub-committee
- \* MHT-2 OFRD Deployment Team

**LCDR Kristin Kelly, Chair Elect,** is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker

(LCSW) serving as the Federal Occupational Health (FOH) Program Manager for Employee Assistance Program (EAP) and Work/Life Services. She is also a Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) in the U.S. Public Health Service bringing over 10 years of experience working in both clinical and governmental settings. She received her Masters of Social Work degree from Virginia Commonwealth University and is licensed to practice clinical social work independently. In addition to her professional license, LCDR Kelly is a member of the Academy of Certified Social Workers, a Board Certified Diplomat in Clinical Social Work and a Work/Life Certified Professional. She also holds a Certificate in Human Resource Development from Villanova University.

Currently at FOH, LCDR Kelly is responsible for coordination of services, customer relations, program evaluation, quality assurance and oversight of EAP and WorkLife programs. She was promoted to Program Manager after serving as the primary FOH EAP counselor assigned to the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. In addition to FOH, she has experience working as a clinician for a variety of agencies, including the Department of Army, the Department of Navy, and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.



**LCDR Carlos Castillo, SWPAG Readiness Subcommittee,**

is a licensed clinical social worker who has worked in various clinical and leadership capacities since 1987 in Connecticut, Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, Texas, Massachusetts, North Dakota, Virginia, District of Columbia, Maryland and Iraq.

Currently, he is an Operations Manager for the Employee Assistance and Work Life Program division of Federal Occupational Health. His division is responsible for the operations of over 400 federal agencies with 850,000 federal workers and their families.

Prior to working with Federal Occupational Health as a US Commissioned Corps Officer, Carlos was employed by the Hartford Board of Education in Connecticut; the New Britain General Hospital in Connecticut; the US Air Force (commissioned officer in the Air Force); The US Virgin Islands Board of Education; the Head Starts programs, and other community agencies. He has held private practice as a licensed clinical social worker in Hartford, Connecticut.



While in the Air Force, he deployed to Balad Air Base, Iraq as Chief of Mental Health Services; and in support of hurricanes Rita and Katrina. While in the US Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, he deployed as a lead crisis counselor to several cities in Texas, Arizona, California, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, Vermont and Missouri. He participated from the OFRD's Remote Area Medical deployments in Kentucky and the OFRD's AP Hill training.

Recent highly visible deployments include responses to Rep. Giffords' shooting in Tucson, Arizona in 2011 and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement shooting in Long Beach, CA in February 2012.

Carlos has a B.A. from the University of Massachusetts and an M.S.W. from the University of Connecticut.



### **CAPT Kerima A. Gibbons, SWPAG Mentoring Subcommittee,**

has been in the US Public Health Service for over twenty years. She is a native Washingtonian. She earned her Master's Degree in Social Work from Howard University. Her professional experience covers a variety of venues that include, direct services, director of an outpatient mental health clinic, administration, program development and implementation.

Most recently, she has served in the capacity of the Suicide Prevention Program Manager at Kenner Army Clinic (KAHC) in Ft. Lee Virginia with the DOD initiative. In this role, she has developed and implemented a suicide prevention program for military and civilian personnel which benefits Kenner and Garrison Staff.

CAPT Gibbons is a registered trainer in ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training). ASIST is a workshop that prepares caregivers of all backgrounds to provide suicide first aid. She also serves as member of the HSO Mentoring Data Base Group and the HSO Mentoring Group. In her current position as the chair, she has had an opportunity to speak with PHS Officers of all disciplines and assist in guidance for their professional development.

### **LCDR Julie A. Niven, SWPAG Communications Subcommittee,**

I am a clinical social worker currently assigned to Fort Lee Army Post in Fort Lee, VA. I work primarily with Advanced Individual Trainees right out of Basic Training and love it! I initially graduated from college with a BA in English from the University of Arkansas and satisfied some wanderlust prior to returning to school to pursue an MSW in Social Work after working for a human services agency and finding that I enjoyed this work more than any I had ever done previously. Since graduating in 1998, I have worked at a variety of agencies including the Arkansas State Hospital, a private-for-profit mental health clinic, on an American Indian reservation out west, with Alaska Natives in the far western region of Alaska, at an Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention center in south Texas and now at Fort Lee. I hold a Master Addiction Counselor certification through NAADAC and a Diplomate in Clinical Social Work.

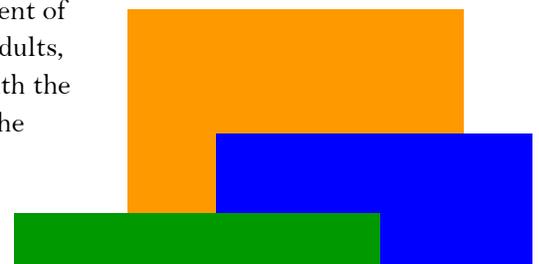
For fun, I enjoy volunteering, exploring Richmond and D.C., writing poetry, and exercising.



### **LCDR Scott Eppler, SWPAG Secretary.**

LCDR Eppler is presently Deputy Chief of Behavioral Health Team 2 in support of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at Ft. Carson, Colorado. LCDR Eppler is the primary behavioral health consultant and provider for the command and Soldiers of the 2-8 Infantry Battalion. Presently, his duties include all aspect behavioral health care for active duty Soldiers to include emergency and routine behavioral health evaluations, individual and group psychotherapy, and case management. LCDR Eppler earned his Bachelor's Degree in Family Psychology from Oklahoma Baptist University in 1990 and Master of Social Work at the University of Oklahoma in 1996. LCDR Eppler served as a behavioral health consultant to chaplain training for Project Heartland in the aftermath of the Alfred P. Murrah building bombing in Oklahoma City, OK in 1995. He is a United States Air Force active and reserve-duty veteran. LCDR Eppler's experience ranges

from hospice social work with the terminally-ill to behavioral health treatment of at-risk children and adolescents as well as and behavioral health care with adults, couples and families. Since 2001 LCDR Eppler has worked continuously with the active duty uniformed population to include the servicemen and women of the United States Air Force, United States Navy, and United States Army.



## LCDR Kendall Bolton SWPAG Membership Subcommittee.



LCDR Kendall Bolton received her commission in July 2010 and was assigned to DoD/Army, where she remains as a Clinical Social Worker in the Department of Behavioral Health - Irwin Army Community Hospital. LCDR Bolton provides direct services through the Family Advocacy Program, as well as serves as the Embedded Behavioral Health Liaison to the licensed behavioral health providers in the outlying clinics. Fort Riley is transitioning to the Army's medical home model and LCDR Bolton's liaison role provides supervision of and support to the providers in the 1st Infantry Division's Brigade Combat Teams. LCDR Bolton also serves as the Secretary of her local COA Branch, as well as on RIST 7. Locally, LCDR Bolton is a member of the Riley County Community Emergency Response Team and the Geary County Medical Reserve Corps. She is currently the SWPAG Membership Subcommittee Chair.

## LCDR Scott Conner, SWPAG Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee.

LCDR Scott Conner, LCSW, DCSW received his MSW degree from Jane Addams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago. LCDR Conner joined the Bureau of Prisons (USMCFP SPRINGFIELD) in 2003 after serving four years in the United States Navy and currently serves as the Palliative Care/Hospice coordinator. LCDR Conner has served as the secretary, Awards Committee member, and is the current SWPAG Recruitment and Retention chair. In addition, LCDR Conner maintains an inpatient practice providing individual, family and group therapy for children and teenagers. He enjoys watching/playing basketball and barbecuing family-style ribs with friends and family. LCDR Conner and his wife, Rachel, have three daughters.

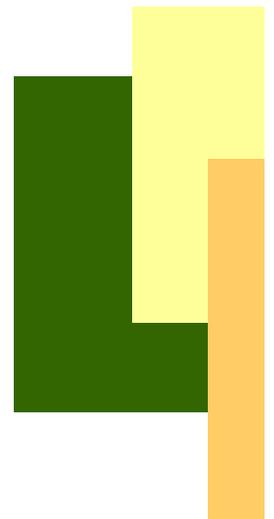


## LCDR Christine Nemeti, SWPAG Awards Subcommittee.

During my social work career, I have worked for Children's Services as both an adoption worker and foster parent trainer. I also did private practice with children prior to joining the United States Public Health Service. I have been commissioned for six years, all of which I have spent working with the Bureau of Prisons at the Federal Medical Center in Springfield, Missouri.

I have enjoyed numerous deployments since joining the Commissioned Corps, which include working aboard the USNS Mercy, assisting with Haitian refugees, and working with the flood victims in New York.

I am married and have three children. I feel blessed with both a great career and wonderful family.



# ...Other News...

The SWPAG Career Development (CD) Subcommittee actively seeks and disseminates information on career opportunities for professional development, vacancies, and special assignments. In an effort to accomplish its mission the CD Subcommittee has created a calendar that lists various trainings/webinars, conferences and continuing education credit opportunities that might be of interest to our members. More current months will contain the most information. You should check back frequently as we will update the calendar as we learn of CD offerings around the country. Please email questions/comments, suggestions for making the calendar better and information about trainings/webinars, conferences and continuing education opportunities to LCDR Tracy Pace, Chair, SWPAG Career Development Subcommittee, at [tpace@hrsa.gov](mailto:tpace@hrsa.gov). Requests for more specific information about any of the events on the calendar should be directed to the event host.

## JUNE 2012

**4-6:** Conference: “5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Patient and Family Centered Care-Partnership for Quality and Safety”, Washington DC, <http://www.ipfcc.org/events/conference.html>

**4-6:** Conference: “International Death, Grief and Bereavement: Hospice and Palliative Care”, La Crosse, Wisconsin, <http://www.uwlax.edu/conted/dgb/ceu.html>

**7:** Webinar: “Overcoming Trauma, Grief, and Guilt”, <http://www.nacbt.org/cognitive-behavioral-therapy-webinars.aspx>

**14-16:** Conference: “Florida Social Work Conference”, Ft. Lauderdale, <http://www.naswfl.org/conference12.htm>

**19-22:** Conference: “Case Management Society of America”, San Francisco, CA, <http://www.cmsa.org/conference/tabid/694/default.aspx>



### USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium 2012



June 19-21, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland CONTACT US | RELATED LINKS | SITEMAP

for information: <http://www.phscofevents.org/>

**26-30:** Conference: “International Summit of Youth in Care”, Baltimore, MD, <http://www.youthincaresummit.info/>

**27:** SWPAG General Membership meeting. 1500 to 1600 Eastern Time, 1-866-561-3692. Participant code: 3556504. Contact: LCDR Todd Lennon ([tlennon@hrsa.gov](mailto:tlennon@hrsa.gov))



## JULY 2012

**22-25:** Conference: “National Association of Social Workers 2012 Conference: Restoring Hope: The Power of Social Work”, <http://www.socialworkers.org/nasw/conferences/hope2012/default.asp>

**25-29:** Training Institute: “Improving Children's Mental Health in an Era of Change, Challenge and Innovation: The Role of the Systems of Care Approach”, Orlando, Florida, <http://gucchdtacenter.georgetown.edu/Activities/TrainingInstitutes/index.html>

## SEPTEMBER 2012

**12:** SWPAG General Membership meeting. 1500 to 1600 Eastern Time, 1-866-561-3692. Participant code: 3556504. Contact: LCDR Todd Lennon ([tlennon@hrsa.gov](mailto:tlennon@hrsa.gov))

**28-October 2:** Conference: “National Conference on Addiction Disorders”, Orlando, FL, <http://www.addictionpro.com/ncad-conference/national-conference-addiction-disorders-2012>

## ANYTIME

**Ethics.** <http://www.aswb.org/education/courses/index.php>

**Ethics: Boundary Crossings and the Ethics of Multiple Role Relationships.** <http://www.continuingcourses.net/active/courses/course066.php>

**Ageing, Mental Health, and Long-term Care.** <http://www.continuingcourses.net/active/courses/course041.php>

**Traumatic Brain Injury and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.** <http://www.dcoe.health.mil/TrainingCalendar.aspx>

**The National Child Traumatic Stress Network.** <http://learn.nctsn.org/course/category.php?id=3>

**Center for Deployment Psychology.** <http://deploymentpsych.org/training/online-courses>



...Other News ...

# ...Other News...



## *From the SWPAG Mentoring Subcommittee Chair...*

The SWPAG Mentoring Program is a means for Officers serving as Mentors to help other Officers develop and advance in their careers. The Mentoring Program is a 1-year program designed to allow officers to sign up as mentors and/or mentees through a web-based system with password-protected login accounts. Matches are made by designated HSO Mentoring Program Coordinators based on criteria and factors selected by mentees.

We are in need of Senior(05-above Social Workers) to become mentors, so if you know of a senior Social Work Officer, encourage him/her to become a mentor. We also encourage new and existing Junior Officers to apply to be mentees.

Please note the following:

6-APR-2012: If you have not logged into the data base since Feb 1,2012,and you have not reset your password, you will need to reset your password by clicking on the "Request new password" link located at : <http://www.usphs-hso.org/q=user/password>

If you get an error message, please see contact information listed below. Please note the email address is tied to information that was in the old database. If you recently relocated to another position or changed your email address for any reason, you may get an error message.

The link to obtain the HSO Mentoring Guide and Resources is located at: <http://usph-hso.org/?=pac/sub/mentoring/training>

Please direct questions to: CAPT Kerima A. Gibbons (804-734-9056) or email:[kerima.a.gibbons@us.army.mil](mailto:kerima.a.gibbons@us.army.mil)



## **2012 UNIFORMED SERVICES SOCIAL WORK CONFERENCE (USSW)**

**14 –15 November USSW Conference  
(11-16 AMSUS Conference)  
Phoenix Arizona**

***Begin planning now...work with your leadership to secure funding  
as central funding is not available.***

***CEUs available!!!!***

***Registration opens Aug 20, 2012***

POC: Maj Kelly Czeiszperger [kelly.czeiszperger@us.af.mil](mailto:kelly.czeiszperger@us.af.mil)

*The Mission of the U.S. Public Health Service  
 Commissioned Corps is to  
 protect, promote, and advance the health and safety  
 of our Nation.*

For more information about our PAG, visit the SWPAG website at  
<http://usphs-hso.org/?q=pags/swpag>



**2012 SWPAG Meetings**

June 27

September 12

December 12

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*From 1500 to 1600 ET*

*1-866-561-3692*

*Participant code: 3556504*

***SWPAG Colleagues:***

*The Communications Committee encourages officers to submit any news/events information about fellow social workers, something you've accomplished, clinical issues, job/agency opportunities, recruiting ideas or strategies, career enhancement suggestions, educational opportunities (CEU's), publicity events, deployment/OFRD training experiences, CCA events etc. for publication in the SWPAG newsletter. Please have submissions cut and paste ready.*

*Thank you!*

*Please respond to LCDR Niven at:  
 julie.a.niven@us.army.mil with submissions*