

Civilian Corps Chief Commanders/CSMs Msg #9 (7 May 2014)

Commanders and CSMs,

It has been a while since I sent you an update on happenings in the AMEDD Civilian Corps so here we go.

First, let me say, "Thanx!" We've gotten many reports in the Corps Office about Commanders/CSMs talking with/providing information to their civilians and we truly appreciate the support as we continue to try to keep the Corps members up to date. That said, here are a few updates for you..

- AMEDD CIVILIAN CORPS BOARD OF ADVISORS (BOA): Another "Thank you!" We recently asked for your support for our BOA and got it. We have 3 great new folks beginning a period of service to the Corps. Their enthusiasm and willingness to participate was obvious during our second annual planning meeting where they got exposed to their roles as BOA members, the Leadership Challenge, the Army Profession, communication methods to reach other Corps members, the Performance Triad, and the way ahead for the BOA -- to name just a few. We are truly grateful for your help. If you have great civilian leaders (who doesn't??) please encourage them to apply next time BOA positions come open.

- EXECUTIVE SKILLS COURSE: In April this year we got slots for three civilian employees to complete the AMEDD Executive Skills course. Many of you are graduates and understand the value of this training. The three spent a full day with the Corps as part of the course. It was evident that we are blessed with many civilians who have strong leadership potential. We will continue to seek leadership training opportunities for our civilians. Please help us identify those who have the potential to become our enterprise leaders and help us get them to the leader training that will grow their capabilities.

- FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT CERTIFICATION: Just a reminder. Licensure and certification are important qualifiers for our AMEDD civilians, as they are for our military. Folks in the Financial Management (FM) field now have a certification requirement. MEDCOM Policy Memo 13-066, subject: DoD Financial Management Certification Program implements the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) determination that the DoD FM community (both civilian and military) needs to be recognized as a credentialed workforce. This is a step in that direction. Effective 1 July 2014, appropriated fund civilian employees in occupational series 05xx, plus 0343 G8 and MEPRS employees must obtain and maintain FM certification within 2 years. The intent is to document Army Civilians as certified professionals who have achieved documented competence that supports the Army Profession. Dr. Robert Griffith and Ms. Kathy Scott at HQ MEDCOM are the primary and alternate MEDCOM Career Program Managers (CPM) for CP11, Comptroller, and are the POCs.

- OUTLOOK GLOBAL ADDRESS LIST (GAL): Recently the VCSA directed that we all update our profiles in the GAL. Accurate information in the GAL ensures that my Corps Chief messages reach our civilian workforce so I ask your help in emphasizing that civilians participate. The links he provided to update individual information are <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/milconnect> for MilConnect and detailed update instructions are at: <https://tiny.army.mil/r/NHDty/MilConnect>. Thanks for your help on this!

- HEALTH CARD: I've attached an updated health card we built for the Civilian Corps that addresses TSG's three focus areas—Sleep, Activity, and Nutrition plus Behavioral Health. Your civilians might be surprised if you ask whether they've seen it. They can access a downloadable file under "Health and Wellness" on the AMEDD Civilian Corps website. They (or you!) can find the card at: <https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil/filedownload.aspx?docid=462>. Feel free to use as needed.

- CIVILIAN CORPS VTC TOWN HALL/MENTORING SESSIONS: We're gearing up for June to hold our 5th set of virtual town hall/mentoring sessions via VTC. We build the schedule to accommodate all the time zones. All are welcome at any session—to include you, BTW. We've had some green suit senior unit leaders attend in the past. We will discuss several specific topics and do an overview of some of the major issues in Army Medicine at the time. We do plan to take questions during the session but your folks can also submit questions or topics beforehand using the "Contact Us" button on the Corps website (<https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil>). Our POC is Ms. Martha L. Arevalo. Your folks can contact her via email or by calling 210-808-3025 to arrange a VTC. Here's the schedule:

Virtual Town Hall #1: WEDNESDAY, 11 JUNE, 1800 CENTRAL TIME (According to our calculations from the world time zone clock, this equates to the following local times: 0800 next day Japan/Korea / 1900 Eastern / 1300 Hawaii / 1500 Alaska / 1600 Western / 1700 Mountain / 0100 next day Europe)

Virtual Town Hall #2: THURSDAY, 12 JUNE, 1300 CENTRAL TIME (Local times: 0300 next day Japan/Korea / 1400 Eastern / 0800 Hawaii / 1000 Alaska / 1100 Western / 1200 Mountain / 2000 Europe)

Virtual Town Hall #3: FRIDAY, 13 JUNE, 0800 CENTRAL TIME (Local times: 2200 Japan/Korea / 0900 Eastern / 0300 Hawaii / 0500 Alaska / 0600 Western / 0700 Mountain / 1500 Europe)

- SOCIAL MEDIA: The Corps is now sponsoring a monthly Blog focused on Health and Wellness and 2 Twitter accounts (https://twitter.com/AMEDD_Civ_Corps and <https://twitter.com/GreggStevensSES>) that we use in our communication strategy to reach more civilians and other Army Medicine Team members. We welcome comments on both media and also look for ideas to engage Corps members in the Performance Triad and resiliency. If you would, please mention these opportunities to your civilians.

The blog is hosted on our SharePoint community on the Army Medicine Portal: <https://mitc.amedd.army.mil/sites/Communities/Civilian-Corps/Blog/default.aspx>, so it requires CAC login. We also have a direct link to the blog under “Social Media” on the left side of the main page of our Civilian Corps website: <https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil/>.

- MONEY FOR YOU AND YOUR FOLKS: Not sure I consciously put this last but probably did do so at least subconsciously! We have two ways to make money to support your organizations, both of which are wrapped around civilian education and training. The first applies to your medical folks in CP 53. There is money available for education and training—centrally funded from DA so not out of your organization’s coffers. It has to be job related and be on the employee’s Individual Development Plan (IDP) in Army Career Tracker (ACT) but funds are available. Need to hurry tho since they are FY funds and DA will recapture anything we don’t spend. The fact that employees must meet conference requirements from DA does make it a bit more tedious so we encourage folks to take advantage of local or on line training to the maximum extent possible. The POC is Mr. Pete Altman or Mr. Ison Zibowsky, both from the AMEDD Personnel Proponent Directorate Civilian Personnel Division and both in AMEDD global for contact information.

The second way is built around doing things locally to support civilian education and training. We are now able to get information from ACT regarding the number of civilians, by organization, who have an IDP in ACT, who have completed the Civilian Education System (CES) Foundation Course if they became a DA civilian after 30 Sep 06, and who have completed, as a minimum, the online portion of their grade-appropriate CES course (Basic, Intermediate, or Advanced). The latter qualifier includes military with documented OES/NCOES who can get equivalency credit for their grade-specific CES courses. MEDCOM will reimburse, potentially up to \$1000 per individual in this FY, for civilians who complete these actions. You can use the funds earned as you see fit but, of course, my bias is reinvestment of at least part back into civilian education and training. Good luck.

Guess that’s it for now. Hope you find the info useful. If you have specific questions, please let me know and we’ll try to help out. Again, thanx for taking care of our civilian Teammates!

As always,

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