

★ ★ ★ TSG SENDS: COVID-19 and Army Medicine 139 ★ ★ ★

Army Medicine Family,

On August 10, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) celebrated its 73rd Birthday. The DOD consists of more than 1.3 million active duty service members, 750,000 civilian personnel, and more than 811,000 National Guard and Reserve service members. Army Medicine wishes our Department of Defense a Happy Birthday and stand ready to support, at home or abroad, its mission to ensure our nation's security.

Last week, the Army Public Health Center (APHC) hosted its seventh and final iteration of the annual Army Public Health Course from July 30 to August 5. In attendance were 376 in-person attendees and nearly 600 virtual attendees representing DOD civilian, Army public health officers, and enlisted specialties. The course's theme this year was, "strengthening foundations, building the future." The course aims to provide the most current public health information topics and improve core competencies for public health efforts across all of the DOD. Great work APHC!

This week, it was confirmed that CSM Hough and I will be guests on the Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) Noon Report webinar series. The series features presentations by senior Army leaders responsible for key programs and initiatives. Please join us on September 7, at 12:00 Noon (EDT), to discuss Army Medicine's "pivot to readiness" and the reorganization of the Regional Health Commands to support Army readiness. To register:

<https://www.ausa.org/events/noon-report-pivot-readiness-army-medicine>

Employee Highlights

This week we transition from the Commander spotlight back to our employee spotlight with Basilisa Ramirez-Capers, known as "Lisa". She is the Continuing Medical Education (CME) program manager with the OTSG/MEDCOM Medical Education Directorate.

Lisa has been with Army Medicine for 31 years and has worked for nine Army Surgeons General. She has been in her current role since 2002 where she is responsible for helping physicians through certifying courses, renewing licenses, and maintaining program accreditation.

"When I see them progressing from residencies, to fellowships, to staff, I have a sense of having contributed to their career," she said.

While Lisa is eligible for retirement, she said she isn't quite ready. However, she may enjoy being a grandmother more than she enjoys working. Her grandchild was born earlier this year.

She is an avid volunteer and has been volunteering at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C., since 2009. Lisa also drives seniors to pick up groceries and to medical appointments through her work with the Shepherd's Center of Annandale/Springfield.

Born in the Philippines, Lisa later moved to Hawaii and married a U.S. Marine. One of his assignments brought them to Virginia where she has lived for many years.

Last year the MEDCOM CME Program was granted four consecutive accreditations with accommodations for six years. This is the highest mark given to any of the CME providers.

"The accreditation process is rigorous but it's been worth it. It's a worldwide program and I've met many friends," she said.

Thank you, Lisa, for everything that you do for Army Medicine and our providers.

Army Medicine is Army Strong!

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