

AMEDD Civilian Corps Chief Msg # 49---Here comes summer!! (9 May 2014)

Hi Everyone!

It's been a while since my last message so it's time. Contrary to what it may seem, we are trying to keep down the size of the messages. Hang with me and see how it goes this time. And we're off!

A BUNCH OF RECOGNITION:

--- I'm paraphrasing the following from an article: "Who holds a hand, wipes away tears, is flexible and resilient no matter what time of day it is, and can walk 10 miles a day without ever setting foot on a treadmill? These are just a very few of their qualities. They know the value of tears and laughter all in the same day, and know the importance of mentoring and educating others about the body, mind, and spirit." Not sure?? Sounds like my Mom,...but that's because she was a NURSE! These things, along with clinical expertise, management acumen, and leadership are part of their regular day. Nurses make up 20+ percent of the AMEDD Civilian Corps. Don't forget to thank our nurses to help celebrate National Nurses Week May 6-12.

You have seen in previous Chief messages information about the Army Profession and how we are part of the capital "T" Team. One of our Civilians, Ms. Melanie Shreve, Emergency Room Clinical Care Coordinator/Educator, Irwin Army Community Hospital, Fort Riley, KS, shares some words of encouragement and wisdom of her profession. Click on the link in the "Happy Nurses Week" article in "What's New" on our website (<https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil>) to read her thoughts about daily living the Army values, professionalism, and commitment.

--- Congratulations to MEDCOM Nurse Ms. Lori A. Loan from Madigan Army Medical Center, Joint Base Lewis-McCord, WA. Lori received the Decoration for Exceptional Civilian Service at the 2014 Secretary of the Army Awards ceremony at the Pentagon on 5 May 2014. Read more about the outstanding Army Civilians who received the 2014 awards and see Lori's photo:
http://www.army.mil/article/125359/Soldier_civilian_employees_honored_with_2014_SecArmy_Awards/

--- Congratulations to our three Civilians who attended the Executive Skills Course in April 2014 – Dr. Joan Ingram, Ms. Tanja Herlihy, and Dr. Chris Blasy. Thanx to all who applied for the course. We received many outstanding applications and , altho we tried to obtain more seats, were limited to three this time around. We'll continue to try to get more slots so keep a look out for the announcement of next year's course. It's a great opportunity to grow our leaders!

--- Thank you Daryl Walker, Health Benefits Advisor, Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Ft Gordon, GA, for all you do in assisting our Active Duty and Veteran Soldiers. Read about A Veteran's Story of Overcoming Adversity at <http://www.fortgordonfyi.com/2014/02/disability-end-veterans-story-overcoming-adversity/>.

--- Congratulations to Dr. Victor A. Convertino, PH.D., Physiologist/Researcher, Tactical Combat Casualty Care Research Task Area Program Manager at USAISR, for being selected as one of the 2013 top innovators in Emergency Medical Service (EMS). Dr. Convertino also received the highest recognition awarded by the Texas Regional Chapter of the American College of Sports Medicine (TACSM) for 2014. Read more about Dr. Convertino's accomplishments by going to the April 2014 Mercury article (http://armymedicine.mil/Documents/APRIL_2014_MERCURY.pdf, page 32) and the May 2014 Mercury article (http://armymedicine.mil/Documents/MAY_2014.pdf , page 31).

--- Congratulations to Dean Ohlsen, Maintenance Management Specialist, G4-MEDCOM, for your 60 years of Federal service. Many thanks for your commitment and dedication to Army Medicine.

--- Congratulations to the following winners of the 2013 Beneficiary Counseling Assistance Coordinator (BCAC) and 2013 Debt Collection Assistance Officer (DCAO) of the Year. These awards are given annually by MEDCOM to recognize individuals for outstanding contributions as a BCAC and DCAO.

~ BCAC Winner – Camisha Ruff, Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, TX

~ DCAO Winner – Marilyn Hill, Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg, NC

--- Congratulations to the 2013 MEDCOM Employee of the Year Award recipients-- they are as follows:

~ Category I: Mrs. Wan Aponte, ERMC, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center

~ Category II: Dr. Rosenie Thelus, OneStaff, OTSG Patient Care Integration

~ Category III: Mrs. Terry Stansberry, OneStaff, MEDCOM G-8

ARMY PROFESSION

---As noted above, we've "talked" about the Army Profession in several previous messages. One of the really neat things is recognition of the Army Civilian Corps members as equal partners with their uniformed Profession of Arms counterparts. We have commented many times about how we are integral to the Army Team and key to ensuring readiness and well-being of Soldiers and their Families. The Secretary of the Army, Chief of Staff of the Army, and Sergeant Major of the Army have tri-signed a letter in recognition of Public Service Recognition Week, May 04-10, that recognizes Army Civilians in the Army Profession, stating that, "Even as Army Civilians endured disruption and hardship during last year's furlough, they remained committed to the mission. These actions alone command the utmost respect and appreciation of the entire Nation." Follow this link <http://cpol.army.mil/news/05-May/2014-Trisigned-memo-PublicServiceRecognitionWeek.pdf> to read a tri-signed letter. It's certainly worth a look!

---Career Program (CP) 10---Some special information for those of you in CP 10, our personnelists. Here's a chance for you to impact the design of a meaningful, effective CP-10 ACTEDS Plan that addresses what you want, not just what others think you need. CP 10 is conducting a survey to get your input, to define what your aspirations are. The survey of is an opportunity for you to tell DA G-1 what is important to you with regard to career development. It is on line, confidential, and only takes about 5-10 minutes to complete. Your assessment results will provide the career program with valuable information on how to better meet your needs as a CP-10 careerist. I VERY STRONGLY encourage you to participate. You can find the assessment at:

<https://hqdasurveys.arl.army.mil/EFM/se.ashx?s=2EA0F6796A5BACBD>, and it will be open until May 15, 2014. If you have any questions, you can email Peter Q. Gary at peter.q.gary2.civ@mail.mil. Go get it!

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

--- 16 May 2014—Deadline for the CPT John R. Teal Leadership Award. The award recognizes individuals for exceptional performance and significant contributions to the AMEDD mission while serving as 70H Officers, Noncommissioned Officers, and Civilian Medical Professionals in key operations positions. Read more about this award and the nomination procedures on our Corps website (<https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil>) "What's New."

--- 30 May 2014—Senior Enterprise Talent Management (SETM) for FY15 (GS-14/15 or Equivalent) Nominations. MEDCOM Suspense for applications is 30 May 14. MEDCOM G37 POC: Mr. Ray Mendoza, raymond.r.mendoza2.civ@mail.mil, (210) 221-7245. Application instructions are available at: <https://www.csldo.army.mil>. Click on "USERS GUIDE."

- 7 July 2014—Due date for nominations for the Army Medicine Wolf Pack Award for 4th Quarter FY 14. This award is given quarterly to a combined team of Civilians and military (can include contractors) that makes a significant contribution to the Army Medicine mission. Details on the award and nomination instructions are on the website (<https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil>) under the "Celebrate Success" link.

- 31 October 2014 – Deadline to apply for the Army-Baylor University Graduate Program. HQ MEDCOM is accepting applications for the Army-Baylor University Graduate Program in Health and Business Administration for Academic Year 2015. This two-year program is a unique opportunity targeted for current MEDCOM Civilians in grades GS11-12 or equivalent. You can read the announcement memo with eligibility, prerequisite, and application information on our website (<https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil>) under "What's New."

CIVILIAN CORPS OUTREACH

---Town Hall/Mentoring VTCs: One of the primary ways we now share information is through our series of Corps-sponsored Virtual Town Hall/Mentor VTC sessions. We'll be cranking them back up again in June, so check it out on, yep you guessed it, the AMEDD Civilian Corps website (<https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil>) under "What's New" for dates and times.

(Have you noticed there a LOT OF STUFF on the Corps website under "What's New"????? Maybe it bears checking out once in a while!!)

--- You don't want your Civilian co-workers to miss out on the Civilian Corps Messages, do you? Some are missing them because they haven't yet updated their profiles in the Enterprise Email System (EES). Share this message with them and let them know they can go to our website (yes, at <https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil>) and click on the FAQ's (no, NOT "What's New!") to find instructions on how to update the proper MEDCOM organization in the EES. Once this is done they are on their way to being on our email distribution list! And, don't forget your military co-workers either. Share this and all our messages with them. If they want to be added to the list to receive the messages, have them contact Ms. Martha Arevalo in our Corps Office and she'll manage it. They can contact Marty via the "Contact Us" link on the upper right of our Corps website or her contact info is in Global.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

---Make Money for Your Organization: Just wanted to reemphasize something we've mentioned before. In previous messages we've covered the new performance metric MEDCOM will be using to measure units' accomplishments in Civilian education and training. The measure includes: 1) How

many Civilians have completed an Individual Development Plan (IDP) in Army Career Tracker (ACT); 2) The number of employees required to complete the Civilian Education System (CES) Foundation Course who have done so [That would be folks who came on board after 30 Sep 06]; and 3) The number of employees who have completed at least the online portion of their grade appropriate CES course (Basic for GS 1-9, Intermediate for GS 10-12, and Advanced for GS 13-15). This part includes former military who have completed OES/NCOES courses for which equivalency is granted—and those are listed on our website. The money part comes in when you consider that there may be as much as \$1000 added to the organization's budget for each employee who has all 3 components of the metric completed, with lesser amounts for partial completion. Here's your chance to make things better for your unit simply by doing the right thing for yourself. And, oh BTW, these things are all required in the current MEDCOM training guidance! So, go get it!! Payment time is coming!!!!

--- As I mentioned earlier in this message, HQ MEDCOM is accepting applications for the Army-Baylor University Graduate Program in Health and Business Administration for Academic Year 2015. Read more about this training opportunity, again, under "What's New."

--- College Tuition Discounts Available: Here's some great info from the Office of Personnel Management. University of Maryland University College (UMUC) will offer a 25% discount for out-of-state tuition rates on courses, certificates, and degree programs to all current Federal employees, spouses, and their legal dependents. UMUC courses are available through traditional classroom, or online virtual classroom delivery. More information is available at www.umuc.edu/opmlearning. Contact your Career Program Manager to see if tuition assistance might be available. A current list of MEDCOM CPMs is available on our website (<https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil>) under "Training & Development." Click "Managing Your Career" and then "Career Programs." (CAC Log in required.) The direct link is <https://ke2.army.mil/civiliancorpsadmin/filedownload.aspx?docid=460>.

FOR CP53 EMPLOYEES -- Although degree and certificate programs are not funded at this time, individual college courses may be supported when the training is job-related and/or closes existing competency gaps identified in your IDP. For questions about CP53 you can e-mail: usarmy.jbsa.medcom-ameddcs.mbx.cp53-medical@mail.mil.

HEALTH AND WELLNESS:

---How are you doing with the TSG's challenges on the Performance Triad of Sleep, Activity, and Nutrition? As my fractured hip heals, I'm getting better but still have a way to go. Help yourself and your Family by trying to achieve: 1) Sleep—a minimum of 7 hours a night; 8 is better; 2) Activity—10,000 steps a day (equivalent of about 5 miles for folks who are 6'2" tall with "wheels" the size of mine; and 3) Nutrition—8 portions of fruits/veggies per day. As I said, I've still got a way to go but the closer I get to these targets the better I've been feeling. Give it a try!!

---Check out our May Blog and send us a note or comment on what you are doing as part of the TSG Performance Triad Challenges. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!! You can easily access the blog site from the main page on our website at <https://ameddciviliancorps.amedd.army.mil/Default.aspx>. Click on the "Blog" icon under Social Media on the lower left side of the page. It does require CAC log in, and be sure to select your EMAIL certificate when prompted.

Guess that's about it for now—not short but shorter than usual.... One final note. It just wouldn't be a Chief's message without some mention of safety. Please take the time to think a bit about safety for the summer months. Things like sun, heat, and critters can all impact your summer in both positive and negative ways. A little forethought and common sense will go a long way toward making it the former rather than the latter. As I've often said in the past, we need you back on the Team and your

Family is your support system that helps keep you on top of your game. Please keep both in top condition this summer.

Until next time,

gregg

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