



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

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Assistant Secretary for Health
Office of Public Health and Science
Washington D.C. 20201

TO: Commissioned Corps Officers

FROM: Acting Assistant Secretary for Health
Surgeon General

SUBJECT: Mission Statement for the USPHS Commissioned Corps

We are pleased to announce the implementation of a new Mission Statement for the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service. This is an important step as we move forward with the transformation of the Corps.

As you are aware, the previous Mission Statement was adopted in November 1989. Since that time, the present and emerging needs of the Nation have evolved significantly creating the need for an updated Mission Statement for the Commissioned Corps. This new Mission Statement was circulated to the Heads of Operating Divisions and Heads of Staff Divisions for their comments, and reviewed and discussed by the Office of Commissioned Corps Force Management, the Chief Professional Officers and the Chairs of the Professional Advisory Committees, the Surgeon General's Policy Advisory Council, and the Flag Officers. As a result of these discussions and deliberations, a new Mission Statement is implemented as of February 15, 2005.

The Mission of the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service

"Protecting, promoting, and advancing the health and safety of the Nation"

As America's uniformed service of public health professionals, the Commissioned Corps achieves this mission through:

- rapid and effective response to public health needs,
- leadership and excellence in public health practices, and
- the advancement of public health science.

While we have all been carrying out our responsibilities in support of this mission, we expect everyone to embrace this new statement, to act accordingly, and to articulate and promote this new language whenever possible and appropriate.

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