

Date: February 13, 2006

From: CDR Liza M. Figueroa, TPAC Field Representative Coordinator

To: CDR Scott Gaustad, TPAC Chair; LCDR Corey Dahl, TPAC Executive Secretary

Via: CDR Sue Newman, Chair TPAC Information Management Committee

Subj: FEBRUARY 2006 TPAC FIELD REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

I. POSITIONS OPEN/ANTICIPATED

- **IHS AZ**

Hopi:

PT position has been approved to be an O-3, O-4, O-5 billet- dependent upon the qualifications of the applicant- so this will increase the scope of recruitment efforts.

Tuba:

PT Manager, Staff PT. Contact *James Cowher*, PT 928 283-2659

- **IHS NM**

Gallup:

Chief of PT

Shiprock:

Staff Physical Therapist

- **IHS NW/AK**

Mt. Edgecumbe Hospital:

Contact: *Terry Cavanaugh* (907) 977-8312 Email: terry.cavanaugh@searhc.org

Crow Agency:

PT-not posted yet but at least 1 position is going to be open

Lamedeer:

1 staff PT. Contact: *Jennifer Allies* (406) 477-4422 email: jenniferallies@mail.ihs.gov

II. CONGRATULATIONS

- **IHS AZ**

PIMC:

- *CAPT Mark Dardis, CDR Liza Figueroa and CDR Ron West* have been awarded the **USPHS Outstanding Unit Citation** for the dedication and commitment toward treating patients with complex hand injuries for the IHS Phoenix Area.

- **MULTI-AGENCY**

FDA, Arizona:

- *LCDR Terry Boles* received the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for his service while assigned to 355th Medical Operations Squadron, Davis-Monthan AFB, Arizona.

- **IHS NM**

Santa Fe:

- *CDR Martha Duganne* received the **USPHS Commendation Award**

III. NEWS FROM THE FIELD

- **IHS AZ**

Parker:

- *LT Joe Golding* is attending the 2nd week of the Basic ENMG Course at Rocky Mountain University of Health Professions February 20-26. He will also be taking the OCS exam on March 10, 2006

PIMC:

- *CDR Lois Goode*, Chief PT Consultant for the IHS, visited the PT Department on February 1, 2006

- *CDR Ron West* attended the APTA, CSM conference in San Diego. Served as Aide-de-Camp to ADM Agwunobi to the Arizona Governor's Flu Pandemic Conference.

- As the Phoenix Area Aide-de-Camp Coordinator for the OSG and ASH Phoenix visits, *CDR Liza Figueroa* coordinated and assisted with Aide-de-Camp services to DSG RADM Moritsugu, Chief Nurse RADM Romano and IHS Director RADM Grim while attending the 2006 National Combined Councils Meeting in Phoenix, AZ. She also coordinated services for ADM Agwunobi to the Arizona Governor's Flu Pandemic Conference.

Tuba:

- TCRHCC has started a Phase II Cardiac Rehab Program accepting the first patients in January. The program is staffed by nursing and PT with PT providing exercise prescriptions and general fitness recommendations. The program is housed with-in the PT department.

- *LTJG Heidi Fisher* transitioned from Corporate hire to Commissioned Corps. She attended BOTC and recently completed the online IOTC course.

• **BOP WEST**

USMCFP Springfield:

- *CDR Scott Gaustad* attended APTA, CSM in San Diego. While at CSM, as a Specialization Academy of Content Experts (SACE) II item writer, he and other item writers met and prepared questions for the geriatric and orthopedic ABPTS board specialist examinations.

FMC Rochester:

- *LT Jessica Feda* has attended the APTA CSM and a pre-conference course for the treatment of diabetic ulcers. She also serves as the lead officer for a newly developed multi-disciplinary program for patients with chronic pain, which will incorporate an 8-week exercise program.

• **MULTI-AGENCY**

FDA, Maryland:

- *LT Ayanna Hill* announces the birth of her daughter, Anani Xumya, on November 22nd at 3:41 p.m.

OSPHS, Colorado:

- *LCDR Laura Grogan* was elected as the President of the Rocky Mountain COA Chapter. She has also been certified in Hypnosis.

• **IHS NM**

Gallup:

- Beginning process of receiving reimbursement for Durable Medical Equipment.

- Wellness center, currently staffed by *CAPT Dominick Aretino*, is likely to be expanded in the near future, with possibility of new staff being added (therapist).

ACL:

- Expanding their role in the diabetes clinic and now provide daily walk-in and outreach clinic diabetic foot checks. Hope to have a diabetic shoe fitting clinic up and running soon.

- PT Dept. has started seeing the majority of walk-in orthopedic patients from the outpatient department during regular working hours.

- The physical therapy component of the satellite clinic reopened in To'jajiilee and is staffed by one therapist one half day per week

Zuni:

- ***LCDR Megan Horeis***, PT is working closely with the OB Dept. in the area of women's health.

- The PT dept. is part of a Pain Management Team that is in its planning stages.

Crownpoint:

- Facility is working on application for receiving reimbursement for DME

ST Elizabeth's

- Congratulations to ***LCDR Maria Bacilio***, Chairperson and Mistress of Ceremony for the 4th Annual Employee Recognition Celebration for the Department of Mental Health at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, where over 200 employees were recognized. The Celebration was a complete successful. Job well done!

IV: WELCOME/FAREWELL

Welcome:

- **IHS AZ**

PIMC:

Has a new inpatient therapist, ***LCDR Terry Boles***. He started working at PIMC Feb 1, 2006. Previous to PIMC he was with the FDA, Arizona, and prior to that he was an Air Force therapist

Tuba:

Mr. Duane Roseman, DPT, joined TCRHCC from Baltimore as a Corporate hire

- **MULTI-AGENCY**

USDA, California:

CDR Sue Newman transferred to the United States Department of Agriculture/Food Safety Inspection Service/Field Operation on December 2, 2005 as an Enforcement Investigation Analysis Officer

- **IHS NM**

Zuni:

LCDR Ernestine Higdon, PT is the new Chief of PT. She previously worked at Zuni as a Staff Therapist for 7 ½ years before working at GIMC for 4 ½ years. She returned in January 2006.

Shiprock:

LT Thomas Schroeder, Staff PT

LCDR Joseph Strunce, PT, Chief of Rehab

Crownpoint:

Michelle Barbone, Health Tech. This position was previously an office clerk position.

Farewell:

- **IHS AZ**

Tuba:

CDR Sue Newman, DPT, transferred to USDA.

- **MULTI-AGENCY**

FDA, Arizona:

LCDR Terry Boles transferred from FDA Phoenix to Phoenix Indian Medical Center as of February 1, 2006

- **IHS NW/AK**

Billings Area:

Charlie Lewis left IHS

Blackfeet Service Unit:

Tamara George left IHS.

V. PRESENTATION

- **IHS AZ**

Tuba:

LTJG Heidi Fisher presented on Ergonomics to TCRHCC dental department

- **IHS NM**

ACL:

LT Scott Mitchell is giving a presentation on exercise to locals during a “Sweet Talk” diabetic group session.

LT Stephen White will be presenting radiology guidelines and general knee joint testing to the medical staff 2/23/06.

Shiprock:

LCDR Strunce presented “The Immediate Effects of Thoracic Spine Manipulation with a Primary Complaint of Shoulder Pain,” at APTA CSM Feb 2 in San Diego, CA.

Crownpoint:

Lori Lee, PT continues to present the exercise component at weekly “Lifestyle Balance” program. This has been the most successful group yet, as they have been having steady group participation.

VI. PUBLICATION:

None reported

VII. CURRENT RESEARCH

- **IHS NM**

Zuni:

Ongoing study involving osteoporosis screening. Data continuously being collected by the PT dept, to be compiled in the future. This would be a unique study, in that no previous studies on osteoporosis have been done involving Native Americans.

VIII. DEPLOYMENTS:

- **BOP WEST**

CDR Eric Payne has been deployed to New Orleans to serve as the ESF-8 LNO for St. Bernard Parish.

IX. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. What type of nomination process is utilized to elect TPAC chair, secretary, committee chairs as well as agency clinical consultants?

2. Consider the addition of working clinical uniforms of, perhaps, scrubs with printed logo. Consider navy with gold logo and maybe printed officer name and rank or discipline. Many of us do wound and foot care which results in soiled uniforms, particularly the salt and pepper variety. Working "uniform" scrubs would be more sanitary, etc. in the clinic.

Respectfully submitted by:

CDR Liza Figueroa