

CAPT Beverly Bell - Therapist Director (Retired)
Career Summary

In 1973, CAPT Beverly Bell began her career as a staff Occupational Therapist at the USPHS Hospital in Seattle Washington. She received her commission as a Public Health Service Officer in 1974. CAPT Bell became the Chief Occupational Therapist at this facility in 1976. It was here that she developed, with Ron Klein, the “Klein-Bell Activities of Daily Living Measurement Scale.”

In 1977, CAPT Bell became the Chief Occupational Therapist for the Division of Hospitals and Clinics, Bureau of Medical Services.

CAPT Bell became the Project Officer in 1981 for the PSRO Branch, Division of Health Standards and Quality, at the Health Care Financing Administration for Region X. She was also Nominated to the Board of Directors, Western Washington Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation.

In 1982 CAPT Bell was appointed Chief Occupational Therapist, at the National Hansen’s Disease Center.

In 1984 CAPT Bell became the Medical Review Program Specialist for the Medical Review Branch, Division of Health Standards and Quality at the Health Care Financing Administration, Region X. During this time she received the PHS Unit Commendation.

CAPT Beverly Bell became the Medicaid State Representative to the State of Alaska *and* Medicaid Policy Specialist for eligibility and coordinated (managed) care, State Operations Branch, Division of Medicaid, HCFA in 1989. She received the HCFA Bureau Director’s Citation for her work on the development of the “Medicaid Program Characteristics Database” for the Budget Estimating Initiative. CAPT Bell also received her 2nd PHS Commendation Medal.

In 1993 CAPT Bell was assigned Chief of the Medicare Contractor Management Branch, Division of Health Plans and Providers, at HCFA. . She received the PHS Outstanding Unit Citation and the Secretary’s Award for Distinguished Service for her work on the influenza vaccine program.

In 2000 CAPT Bell became the Senior Policy Analyst at the Office of the Regional Administrator, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in Region X. She received the Secretary’s Award for Distinguished Service – Year 2000 Oversight.

Of her Career, CAPT Bell writes:

“My career had two distinct components; clinical work and regulatory - administrative work. It had always been my contention, that my training and experience as a Therapist made me an excellent Project Officer and Regulatory Official. My therapeutic abilities to analyze information and problem solve were the same skills used throughout my career.

My advice to new therapists, and to any remaining in the corps with experience, is to engage as fully as you can in your experience as a Commissioned Officer. Take every advantage of opportunities to serve in unique and varied capacities. I asked my kids, now of college age, what did they think if I, or their dad, would have had to be gone for extended period of time, say months, in a special assignment. In retrospect, they felt that is would have been just fine, even though as parents, we endeavored to avoid such opportunities. I suspect they were right.”