

FIELD REPRESENTATIVE COORDINATOR REPORT

December 2007

LCDR Jodi A. Tanzillo, Field Representative Coordinator

I. Congratulations To:

- **BOP WEST**

FCC Tucson

Congratulations to LCDR Damien Avery, who will graduate from US Army-Baylor transitional DPT program 12/15/2007.

- **IHS AZ**

Chinle

Congratulations to LCDR Jodi Tanzillo, OT and LT Paul Stout, PT who received Letters of Appreciation from Many Farms High School for their participation in the Career/Health Fair conducted 11/16/07.

Fort Defiance

Congratulations to LCDR Joe Christ, OT who was awarded the FMRB and an Outstanding Unit Citation award.

Hopi

Congratulations to the Hopi Health Care Center Wound Care Team who is being recognized at the I.H.S National Directors award ceremony.

- **IHS Multi-site**

Choctaw Nation Health Care Center

Congratulations to LT Richard Brantley on receiving a USPHS Citation and a Master of Health Administration degree.

Congratulations to Suzan Abeyta, PT who received a Peer Recognition Award from the Oklahoma Area Indian Health Service.

- **Multi-Agency**

Congratulations to CDR Mercedes McCrary, SLP who received a Letter of Appreciation from Montgomery County PS, JF Kennedy High School for being part of a Career Symposium- Careers in Health Care 9/07.

- **NIH**

Congratulations to Hanna Hildenbrand, Senior OT staff, NIH for receiving the Clinical Center Director's Award for collaborative research identifying the phenotypic expressions of rare diseases and for clinical and research contributions to the field of Occupational Therapy.

Congratulations to Susan Robertson and Lucy Swan, Senior OT Staff, NIH who have developed an evaluation and intervention program for women with POI/POF (Primary Ovarian Insufficiency/Premature Ovarian Failure) which is focused on this life changing event to redirect reflections about how to attain a meaningful and purposeful life plan.

II. News From the Field:

- **BOP WEST**

FMC Carswell

LT Tracy Gualandi, PT and LT Carlos Estevez, PT have become CPR BLS instructors and have begun Carswell staff certification as a collateral duty.

LT Tracy Gualandi, PT successfully passed her APFT level 4.

CDR Jean Bradley and husband Steve are the proud parents of a son Evan William Ross Bradley who was born on August 7, 2007.

LT Yvonne Robison, PT and husband Will are the proud parents of a second daughter Alyssa Re'ne Robison who was born on October 6, 2007.

- **IHS AK**

Alaska in General: The 2008 Alaska Physical Therapy Association meeting will be held in Anchorage at the Alaska Native Medical Center and all members that are veterans will be recognized.

Bristol Bay Area Health Corp. – Dillingham, AK

Rod Malstrom, PT is no longer with the Bristol Bay Health Corporation in Dillingham. Currently Pat McAdoo, PT (retired from CC) is serving as a contract PT with some help from some other contract PT's on occasion. Pat has started a program in conjunction with the Assisted Living Facility in Dillingham to go every other Thursday to do fall screenings and fall prevention program. The full time PT position is to be advertised and anyone interested can call and talk with Pat about the open position. Dillingham's hospital was recently recognized by APTA as having 100% membership (this is also true of Nome).

SEARHC – Juneau Medical Clinic

On 31 October, the PT Department initiated "Open Gym" hours during lunch and after work for SEARHC staff to utilize exercise equipment. Fifty-five staff members have been oriented to the equipment with approximately a dozen regular users. This supports the organization's goal of promoting healthy lifestyle choices and a fitness culture.

Norton Sound Health Corp. – Nome, AK

LCDR Joe Kennedy is now serving as Acting PT Dept Chief. S The former supervisor, Dottie Pinkney, PT, is out on medical leave and is unlikely to return to work due to the severity of her illness. This is a terrible blow to Dottie and to the people of this area as she has been a PT in this locale for about 15 years and was the first full time permanent PT in the Norton Sound region. Therefore, I will be looking for anyone interested in doing short-term assignments in Nome during the Spring of '08 and will likely be recruiting for a full time staff therapist late spring, early summer, 2008.

Nome is slated for a new hospital to be completed in 2012 or 2013 with groundbreaking to occur next summer. Right now we are in the process of working with architects and others in the design team to develop the best space layout and equipment list. Although this is still a few years off, it is good to be involved in the design phase now, as with each step it brings this closer to reality.

SEARHC – Mt Edgecumbe Hospital – Sitka, AK

There is a new staff therapist, Ray Popp, PT. He is a direct hire but is exploring the CO option. Ray is wound care certified, allowing Sitka to begin offering wound care services again.

- **IHS AZ**

Chinle

Lyle Bogart, PT started the Maitland Manual Therapy series with his goal to obtain his COMT.

Paul Stout, PT is studying for the OCS exam (March 2008 exam).

LCDR Jodi Tanzillo, OT, LT Erik Cala, SLP, and LT Paul Stout, PT participated in the Chinle Service Unit Mass Immunization exercise on at the Hard Rock Chapterhouse November 29, 2007. The exercise was part of an ICS training designed to allow community members take roles in the ICS structure and to assist them in disaster response.

Fort Defiance

LCDR Mike Faz, PT is vacationing for a month in Costa Rica.

PIMC

LCDR Terry Boles, PT, in December was the ICS Staging Manager in the Phoenix Area IHS mass vaccination drill to simulate deployment of the Strategic National Stockpile in the event of an Avian influenza outbreak.

Pinon

The PT clinic remodeled to expand our patient check-in area by 70 sq. feet which makes for much better patient flow.

The PT Dept assisted with Mass Vaccination Pandemic Flu Drill on 11/29/07 at the remote Hard Rock community Chapter House. 126 community members were vaccinated in 3 hours of operation.

We now have a LOCUMS/traveling PT helping in our clinic through March 2008.

Tuba City

Melissa Long, PT and Aaron Jones, DPT presented a sports injury prevention program to the TCHS coaches and staff. The program is based on guidelines from the Santa Monica ACL Prevention Program.

LT Heidi Fisher, PT has implemented a physical therapy professional study group meeting weekly to review case studies, journal articles, and special tests.

- **IHS Multi-site**

Choctaw Nation Health Care Center

Choctaw Nation opened a new physical therapy clinic in McAlester, Ok with 1 PT and 1 PTA.

LT Richard Brantley led a 10-week Choctaw Reach 2010 Youth Fitness Challenge.

- **Multi-Agency**

CDR Mercedes Benitez-McCrary, SLP completed a Medical Mission to El Salvador- 11/07.

CDR Laura Grogan, OT and Victor C. Ruggiero are celebrating the announcement of their recent Maui wedding and arrival of their first child. They are expecting to meet the new arrival in early April 2008.

CDR Sue Newman, PT completed a 6 month Leadership Potential Program training sponsored by the USDA on December 7, 2007.

III. Welcome/ Farewell To:

- **BOP EAST**

FMC Butner

Welcome to LTJG Tanisha Nobles, PT and LTJG Alice Priest, PT.

- **BOP WEST**

USMCFP Springfield

Welcome to LT Michael McClain, PT.

- **IHS AK**

SEARHC – Mt Edgcumbe Hospital – Sitka, AK

Welcome to the new staff therapist, Ray Popp, PT.

- **IHS AZ**

Chinle

Chinle Hospital bids a sad farewell to LCDR Matthew Armentano, DPT, OCS who will be departing Chinle to join the PT Dept. at Hastings Indian Hospital on Dec. 18th 2007.

Fort Defiance

Welcome to Jaime Fenton, PT, a new staff therapist.

- **IHS Multi-site**

Tahlequa Hospital

LCDR Matthew Armentano, DPT, OCS will be joining the PT Dept. at Hastings Indian Hospital on Dec. 18th 2007, transferring from Chinle, AZ.

- **Multi-Agency**

Welcome to LCDR Harvey Ball, SLP who has taken a position as a PHS Watch Officer with HHS/ASPR.

- **NIH**

The Rehabilitation Medicine Department at the NIH is pleased to welcome Donna Gregory as the new chief of Recreation Therapy section and Jerome Danoff, PT, PhD as the new chief of Physical Therapy section effective May 2008.

IV. Presentations:

- **IHS AZ**

Chinle

LCDR Jodi Tanzillo, OT and LT Erik Cala, SLP presented Dysphagia and Geriatric Adaptive Feeding to Certified Nursing Assistants at the Chinle Extended Care Facility.

PIMC

LCDR Terry Boles, PT, in November instructed “Patient Movement and Litter Training” to the Phoenix Indian Medical Center’s Decontamination Teams.

LCDR Terry Boles, PT, in December instructed and recertified the Phoenix Indian Medical Center security forces in "Safe Movement of Patients".

Pinon

DM Education presentations for patients continue. Presently developing lecture series for lunch time CME education classes for the medical staff.

Tuba City

LCDR James Cowher developed educational programming on pressure ulcers, transfer techniques, and assistive devices for staff from the Navajo Family Caregiver Support Program. This presentation was conducted in the Navajo language by PT Tech Lucinda Yazzie.

Melissa Long, PT presented on Diabetic Foot Care at the Western Navajo Diabetes Expo.

- **Multi-Agency**

CDR Mercedes McCrary, SLP presented to RDF#1- Produced MR Protocol Manual - Medical Records procedure that all of the RDFs in USPHS will use when deployed for officers on sick call and documentation of medical records while maintaining privacy (HIPPA) was completed.

V. Publications

- **NIH**

Parks R, Cintas H, Chou Chaffin M, Gerber L. Brief Assessment of Motor Function: Content Validity and Reliability of the Fine Motor Scale. *Pediatric Physical Therapy* 2007; 19:315-325.

Smith MR, Danoff J, Jain M, Long T. *Genetic Disorders: Implications for Allied Health Professionals and Two Case Studies*. *Internet Journal of Allied Health Sciences and Practice*. Nov 2008.

VI. Deployments:

- **IHS AZ**

Fort Defiance

LCDR Mike Faz, PT went proudly to Camp Bullis being deployed with the Commissioned Corp.

- **IHS Multi-site**

Choctaw Nation Health Care Center

LT Richard Brantley, PT temporarily filled in at Idabel clinic, one of Choctaw Nation's satellite clinics.

- **Multi-Agency**

CDR Mercedes Benitez-McCrary, SLP is scheduled to deploy to GHSI-Secretary Leavitt's- Global Ministers Health Summit- Nov-Dec 2007.

VII. Current Research: None

VIII. Future Agenda Items for TPAC to Consider: None