



Buckeye

AIRLIFTER

Sept | Oct 2011

www.179aw.ang.af.mil



*Suicidologist
Discusses
Resiliency
with 179th*



AROUND THE 179TH

1. Staff Sgt. McQuillen receives an award during a Maintenance Group awards ceremony. McQuillen helped rescue a drowning swimmer over the summer.

2. The Communications Flight gathered together to celebrate Chief Wright's birthday with a giant pizza.

3. A pilot from the 164th Airlift Squadron talks with children during the Cleveland National Air Show in Cleveland, Ohio. The C-27J Spartan was on static display at the air show over Labor Day weekend.



photo by: Master Sgt. Lisa Haun



photo by: Master Sgt. Lisa Haun



photo by: Staff Sgt. Robert Koehler

AROUND THE 179TH



5. Members of the 179th AW gather for a 9/11 remembrance ceremony outside wing headquarters.

6. 179th AW recruiters and volunteers pose with Lt. Col. Krlatt, the Air National Guard stunt pilot, at the Cleveland National Air Show.

photo by: Master Sgt. Lisa Haun



photo by: Staff Sgt. Robert Koehler

AROUND THE 179TH

1. The 179th AW's C-27J Spartan lands on a remote airstrip in Afghanistan to deliver food and supplies to a Forward Operating Base.

2. Airman 1st Class Stephanie Carroll interviews Dr. Mary Bartlett about resiliency in the Air National Guard.



U.S. Air Force photo



photo by: Staff Sgt. Robert Koehler

Suicidologist Encourages Members to Reconnect

Story by: Tech. Sgt. Jessica Hill
Photos by: Master Sgt. Lisa Haun

Dr. Mary Bartlett, a Suicidologist, was in Mansfield on Sept. 17, 2011, to speak with members of the 179th Airlift Wing about the importance of reconnecting with each other and their personal support systems. “You don’t need a PhD to save lives,” she told the audience.

Bartlett was brought to the base at the request of Col. Gary A. McCue, Base Commander, after an alarming number of recent completed suicides Air Force wide and two completed suicides involving members of the 179th AW and the 200th RED HORSE Squadron in the past year. As the spouse of a retired Air Force member, Bartlett is well aware of the pressures and stresses military members face both at home station and while deployed.

“You really can’t prevent suicide unless you know how someone gets there,” she said, noting that one in six people think about attempting suicide at some point in their lifetime. She said that people who think about committing suicide or attempt it do not really want to

do it, they simply feel that they cannot carry their burdens any longer. “They just don’t know what to do with the pain,” she noted.

To help people who feel this burdened, Bartlett said that members need to have open lines of communication. People need to feel that they have someone who they can talk to without retribution. Often the best people to be in the lines of communication are coworkers and supervisors.

“The Wingman concept

the Air Force ever decides to change the concept to a different name, she urged members to remember that they must be there to recognize warning signs in their coworkers and friends. Additionally, they must be ready and willing to ask the tough question, “Are you thinking of committing suicide?” if someone is exhibiting signs of trouble. Bartlett quoted Dr. Edwin Shneidman, founder of the American Association of Suicidology, by saying, “How willing am I to be inconvenienced by a person’s response to two questions:



cannot be a flash in the fry pan,” Bartlett stated. Whether

Where does it hurt and how can I help?”

In addition to debunking the myth of suicide being committed by people who want to die, Bartlett also said that suicide is not impulsive and cowardly. “We are not wired for suicide,” she said, noting that people are ingrained with the desire to survive at all costs. To commit suicide, someone must overcome this aspect of human nature and plan for how they will end their hurting.

People who attempt to commit suicide have told several people about the problems they are experiencing and how they feel overwhelmed. Often times though, they tell each person only a small part of the trouble they feel and the pieces are not connected until it is too late to help. This is where good communication can be key, according to Bartlett. When concerned family and friends talk to one another, they may possibly be able to connect dots to determine if a member is in danger of hurting themselves.

While we all know to watch out for members who show signs of wanting to commit suicide, Bartlett encouraged members to not overlook others who may

be affected by an attempted or completed suicide. Each suicide affects an average of six to 28 people, according to statistics Bartlett gave. Often first responders and personnel who must process the scene of the suicide are affected whether they know the individual or not.

Survivors of an individual who has committed suicide also experience a wide, varying range of emotions beyond the normal grieving process. For instance, they may have a hard time

When dealing with someone who is thinking about committing suicide, Bartlett encouraged members to engage with the individual. She said that many times just talking about what they are experiencing is enough to ease the pressure someone feels. “Never underestimate the power you have when you put your hand on someone’s shoulder and say, ‘You make a difference,’” she concluded.

*You don't need a PhD to
save lives*

-Dr. Bartlett

accepting that they may never know why the person decided that they could not continue with the load they were carrying. Bartlett noted they may also suffer the accusation of others or feel that they are not receiving adequate support. “You just need to be with the survivors,” she said, adding that you may not have the answers to all their questions or may feel awkward with the situation, but they need someone to be with them.

179th Airlift Wing Kicks Off Wind Study

Story by: Lt. Col. Troy Cramer, Base Environmental Manager

Photos by: Master Sgt. Lisa Haun

The 179th Airlift Wing has kicked off a 6-month study to measure wind speed and wind direction, as part of our alternative energy initiatives.

On Thursday, Sept. 15, a 65' Anemometer Tower was placed between Bldg 300 and Bldg 422. This location was selected and approved by the Federal Aviation Administration and airport due to the distance from the active runway and radar tower site.

At the base of the wind tower will be a small gray box known as a data logger that will continuously measure and record the wind speed and direction for the next 180 days.

Mansfield Lahm Airport sits at the highest elevation in the state and has the second highest average sustained wind speeds, only behind areas located on Lake Erie, making the 179 AW an ideal location for the placement of a wind turbine system.

wind study the 179 AW will evaluate the data, as part of a feasibility study, to determine the potential return on investment and long-term viability of the project.

One possible option for a wind turbine, which is well suited for airport operations, is the WindCube™. The WindCube™ is a large turbine surrounded by a metal shroud, which is approximately 30 feet by 30 feet in size. The shroud helps to channel more wind into the turbine blades increasing the overall wind speed.

The 179 AW is pursuing the installation of dual WindCube™ system, capable of producing 60 kilowatts of electricity, enough to power both bldg. 300 and bldg 422, according to Base Civil Engineer, Lt. Col. Stu Killian.

The 179 AW is also studying two other alternative energy projects, landfill gas to energy and solar power. Both of these feasibility studies will be wrapped up in the next two to three months. Stay tuned for regular updates on our large scale alternative energy initiatives.



At the completion of the

179 AW PARTNERS WITH OSU ON COMPLETING DEGREES

STORY BY: TECH. SGT. JESSICA HILL

If the Enlisted Force Advisory Council has their way, soon non-commissioned officers in E-8 and above slots will be required to complete their Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) associates degrees. To help foster this environment of focusing on continuing one's education and becoming well rounded in one's career field, the 179th Airlift Wing has partnered with The Ohio State University's Mansfield Branch to offer select classes on base.

The offered courses are chosen based on what most guard members need to complete their CCAF degrees. These courses are Math, English and Speech. The classes are being designed to fit easily into a member's busy day by being scheduled during an extended lunch hour and directly after normal first shift work hours.

"Now is the time to get on board," Command Chief Master Sgt. Gregory Eyster said regarding members completing their CCAF degrees. "Especially for those on the bubble, get the requirement done. It will soon be a part of the promotion regulations."

The first round of classes is currently in session with a class being held in the UTAH Room at 1700 on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Also, a class is ongoing in the Logistics

Readiness Squadron classroom in building 203 from 1130 until 1330 on Mondays and Wednesdays. Senior leadership on base has encouraged the partnership by allowing on duty members to take the course during the lunch hour without taking additional leave for the extended period of time.

While the courses on base are allowing members to further their education with minimal disruption to their daily lives, the collaboration is also exposing the 179 AW to students who are not currently members of the Ohio Air National Guard. The courses are open to all OSU students who are able to get clearance to be on base. This allows students who have not joined the military a chance to see inside the gates and possibly consider a career with the Guard.

"This has been my best personal teaching experience," remarked Paula Cohen, a speech instructor with OSU who has been teaching at the 179 AW. "It is also great to see the 18 to 20 year olds [who are not from the unit]. They are doing great being surrounded with more mature students."

Maj. Kenneth Kmetz, Force Support Squadron officer, said OSU is a great partner for the 179 AW because they have strict standards for which courses they will accept towards a degree, much like the CCAF

standards. Both colleges do not accept developmental or remedial courses in Math or English toward a degree. OSU is willing to provide a developmental course on base if enough students need the course to qualify to take an approved course toward graduation.

To determine the need for these developmental classes, OSU is conducting pretests on base on Friday, Oct. 21 at 1430 in the downstairs classroom of building 422 and Sunday, Oct. 23 in the same location at 1430. The test is expected to take an hour to complete. "You don't need an appointment," Kmetz said, "Just show up ready to test."

This collaboration is the first time the Mansfield OSU branch has partnered with the military to provide courses on base. Cohen said she is thrilled at the chance to bring the OSU courses to the base and is looking forward to seeing the partnership flourish.

As a reminder, to use the Ohio Air National Guard tuition assistance, students must be registered for the Winter Term no later than November 1. For additional questions about tuition assistance visit www.ongsp.org.

Social Media and Operations Security

Story by: 2nd Lt. Holli Snyder & 2nd Lt. Nathaniel McNary



In the past few years, there has been a significant increase in the use of social media and networking websites by people across all generations.

“With friends like these, who needs enemies,” is a common phrase that is brought to mind when discussing the military’s role in the internet-based age and the threats we face on a daily basis. It is so important that we all understand the risks associated with using these social media outlets and how we can protect ourselves and our fellow Airmen through appropriate use. Social media amplifies Operational Security risks because it enables greater volume and increased speed of information shared publically.

When adding third-party applications to your account, one must be wary of the applications they choose. The National Security Agency suggests you choose carefully, because there is no guarantee that these applications have been approved by the social media website. There is a possibility the applications could contain malicious code or viruses that could collect information from your account. The NSA says that, even if a social networking site has strong privacy settings, it is completely dependent on the third-party application’s security. This can lead to an attacker possibly gaining access and collecting data from multiple websites to compromise your security credentials.

Recently on Facebook, there has been a trend to upload a credit application which will allow others to view your credit rating. Your personal credit rating is sensitive data that should not be advertised and is privacy protected by agencies that must use it. Advertising your personal financial information could open you up to scams,

fraud, and identity theft.

Moreover, the sharing of your sensitive data could be viewed by supervisors and commanders as being negligent with government information. “Information protection” should be considered with respect to personal data, as well as the data the government entrusts to us.

When discussing social media and privacy, one must be aware of how our mobile devices can potentially pose a threat to security. By geo-tagging, you are pinpointing your exact location and uploading that picture online for others to see. This can be potentially dangerous when deployed to undisclosed locations in support of government operations. Even by doing this at home you can make yourself susceptible to threats. Check the privacy settings on your phone and social networking sites to turn off geo-tagging and GPS applications that can collect data about your whereabouts.

Although public affairs personnel monitor the official 179th Airlift Wing’s pages, we are unable to monitor all members who have their own pages on the numerous social networking sites available. That is why it is up to all members to be vigilant and monitor what they do and say online. Once you have posted something on the internet, assume everyone can see it. Even if it was unintentional, the adversary is always looking for someone to make a mistake.

Websites such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube can be great assets to the United States military and are used by all branches of service to promote public understanding, trust and esprit de corps. As individuals, we all have a capability to create our own personal pages on these websites, but we must first be well informed of the potential dangers and the best practices for safe usage.

Some tips we have for safely engaging in social media are:

-Look at your Privacy Settings: Look closely at all privacy settings. Set security options to allow visibility to “friends only”

- Do not reveal sensitive information: Information about yourself or your unit such as drill dates and times, deploy-

ment information, troop movements or any other information that could be a potential OPSEC violation.

-Question yourself: Ask yourself, “What could the wrong person do with this information?” and “Could it compromise my safety, my family or my unit?” Be sure to ask yourself these questions before you post anything to a social media site.

-Review photos before posting: Do not post photos or videos without reviewing them to ensure they do not give away sensitive information. If you have photos from a deployment of temporary duty, have them reviewed by your public affairs office for release. We also can use your photos for publications and our public websites.

-Talk OPSEC: Talk to your family and friends about OPSEC. Most family members and friends only want to show their support for their loved one, but be sure they know what they can and can’t say.

-Think OPSEC: Most importantly, if you see something, say something. OPSEC is everyone’s responsibility and we must remain vigilant at all times. If someone refuses to remove information you think is an OPSEC violation, contact your public affairs office or chain of command.

-Stay in your lane: You should not create or maintain official or unofficial “pages” for Facebook or any other social media. Please see your public affairs office for additional guidance on how to achieve your goal of sharing information within these guidelines.

-Represent the USAF: Remember, you are always representing the United States Air Force, even as a traditional guardsman. Our Airmen should note that anytime they engage in social media, they are representing the Air Force, and therefore should not do anything that will discredit themselves or the Air Force.

Story by: Tech. Sgt. Jessica Hill

On Aug. 11, 2011, the 179th Airlift Wing participated in the United Way National Day of Caring by helping two area agencies. The Raemelton Equestrian Center and the newly opened Little Buckeye Children's Museum handpicked the 179AW to help with projects at their locations, said Capt. Aimee A. Plenge, who helped organize the 179AW's participation in the event.

Both Raemelton and Little Buckeye were chosen by the United Way to receive volunteer help because of the nature of their business. Raemelton provides equestrian therapy to physically, mentally, and cognitively impaired adults and children, while Little Buckeye is a children's museum that opened this summer. According to Raemelton's website, they serve

more than 100 students on a weekly basis.

The 179AW helps with projects at Raemelton during both the National Day of Caring and Earth Day by completing jobs such as cleaning stables, tending stable yards, mending fences, painting, moving furniture and much more. This year, five members of the 179AW volunteered during the August event.

While members have been volunteering at Raemelton for many years, the Little Buckeye Museum is a newer location for volunteers. 2011 was only the second year that members helped this new local attraction and 10 volunteers from the 179AW stepped up to help. Little Buckeye is located at in downtown Mansfield and offers hands on activities for young children. Little Buckeye volunteers helped with moving items throughout the multilevel museum as well as providing artistic painting. The museum is a

membership partner with other kid-friendly museums like COSI and allows children to learn and

create while playing.

In addition to Plenge, volunteers for the August event included Tech. Sgt. Lisa Athy, Tech. Sgt. Lyndsy Pumala, Master Sgt. Marc Pumala, Master Sgt. Charles Christopher, Lt. Col. Troy Cramer, Tech. Sgt. Shawna Hout, Staff Sgt. Evan Adams, Master Sgt. Heidi Bishop, Senior Airman Nicholas Alexander, First Lt. Randy Barlow, and Airman First Class James Unger.

Plenge said that the high operations tempo due to the recent C-27 deployment and several smaller deployments affected the participation numbers for the volunteer days but that the 179AW is still maintaining its volunteer program. "We've been doing this since I started at the base," she noted about volunteering in the local area. "It's great to see it continue every year."



Understanding DTS and the New Government Travel Card

Story by: Tech. Sgt. Jessica Hill

Many people received their new “blue” government travel cards (GTC) in the mail over the past few months and wondered, “What is the difference and how do I know I am using my new card correctly?” The answers are that there are drastic changes between the old and new GTCs and using the new card properly to avoid owing can be very tricky unless you know your exact entitlements.

Are you already confused? If so, do not feel bad. SMSgt Eric Picklesimer from Finance says that he has seen numerous people who are confused by the new card and their responsibilities in regard to staying informed about how much can be charged to the card. With the old “silver” GTC, individual cards were loaded with a preset dollar amount that was always available as long as the card was activated. Picklesimer noted that with this card, the number of delinquencies was growing rapidly and the cards were often abused by members using the credit when they were not on orders or for items that would not be reimbursed on a travel voucher.

Because of these problems, the new “blue” GTC was issued. The major changes to this card are that money is not loaded onto the card and available for use until after orders a cut for a member, also, the dollar amounts that are loaded are estimates of what a member can expect to receive on their travel voucher. These changes are meant to set a realistic spending

limit for the member and to ensure the monies are used during official government travel only.

The main misconception with the blue GTCs is that they are prepaid and that members are free to spend the entire amount loaded onto the card. Picklesimer stressed that the loaded amounts are only estimates and can be off if the orders do not accurately reflect the travel of the member. For example, if the order says the member will fly to the destination, more money will be loaded than if the mode of transportation is changed to driving. If the member’s orders say they will fly but they choose to drive their GTC may be loaded with more funds than they will receive payment for on their travel voucher. Likewise, if the orders state that a member will stay off base and on base billeting is available a discrepancy may occur.

According to Picklesimer, a big disconnection between the actual travel costs and the amounts loaded to the card is due to orders that were created in the AROWS order system. These orders, which are still being used by many squadrons across the base, do not show members a breakdown of the estimated travel costs. Members and supervisors need

to be able to see how much money is allotted to areas of travel costs, money for use while on the travel and authorized reimbursement.

In the new Defense Travel System (DTS) members will be able to see the breakdown of allotted funds and will have a clearer view of how much they can spend on each of the major areas. Squadrons across base are still in the process of switching to the DTS orders. Only two squadrons so far are currently issuing orders through the new system.

To help members have a better understanding of the new travel card and DTS before they use them, Finance is planning to conduct one-on-one training at the squadron level to give orders clerks the information they need to educate supervisors. Supervisors will then be able to help their members understand how much they have been allotted for their travel needs and how much they can expect to be reimbursed.

Picklesimer stated that education of the supervisors and members is the only way the new government travel card will be effective and overcharging will be eliminated. “It has to be handled at a supervisory level,” he said. “We need supervisors going over orders with their members.”

For more information about the new travel card or DTS contact your squadron orders clerk. If there are questions that orders clerks cannot resolve, Picklesimer encouraged people to ask Finance directly.



To be Master Sergeant:

Daniel McBennett - 179 CES

Dwayne Cathers - 179 LRS

Cameron Wagoner - 200 RHS DET 1

To be Technical Sergeant:

Frank Zaunscherb - 179 MOF

Lyndsy Pumala - 179 MSG

Jason Brant - 179 SFS

Michael Kennard - 179 SFS

Jose Vega - 200 RHS DET 1

Jason Amert - 179 MXS

To be Staff Sergeant:

Darbi Ray - 179 MOF

Cashay Moorer - 200 RHS DET 1

Jada Slayton - 200 RHS DET 1

Aaron Sargent - 179 SFS

Andrew Pepin - 179 CES

James Price - 179 AMXS

Jeffrey Furray - 179 MOF

Joshua Burghard - 179 MXS

Jared Lewis - 179 FSS

promotions

To be Senior Airman:

Kenneth Kinder- 179 SFS

To be Airman 1st Class:

Matthew Whitcomb- 179 FSS

To be Airman:

Jordyn Discenzo - 179 FSS

AF Officials Tailor AFPERS Home Page for Users

Story by: Tech. Sgt. Steve Grever

Air Force Personnel, Services and Manpower Public Affairs

The Air Force is in the first phase in redesigning the Air Force Personnel Services, or AFPERS, website to make it more user-centric and intuitive for Airmen to search and perform personnel transactions.

A team representing each Air Force component determined the requirements for each component-specific home page. The new home pages are broken down into three sections to categorize information and resources on personnel services and actions available to total force Airmen on the AFPERS website.

"As we roll out the new look and feel for the AFPERS home pages, it's clearly the start of a journey to allow all Airmen – including Regular Air Force, Guard, Reserve, civilians and retirees – to go to one central website to do all types of personnel business," said Lt. Col. Jenise Carroll, Total Force Service Centers' knowledge management chief. "The action-based home pages are our Airmen's gateway to getting things done on the AFPERS website."

The first segment of the new home pages is the "I Would Like To..." section that includes a comprehensive list of component-specific personnel services available to Airmen on the AFPERS website. Air Force officials are in the process of integrating Regular Air Force and civilian personnel applications with AFPERS to perform "one-click" transactions from the component's default home page. The Guard and Reserve home pages already have this capability available for their members because they integrated the virtual Personnel Center-Guard Reserve application with the AFPERS website earlier

this year.

Guard and Reserve members will have more navigation options on their component home page for accessing personnel information and links to perform personnel actions, said Matthew Pague, Air National Guard's documentation management branch chief.

"They will have the capability to review knowledge in order to fully understand a personnel process; and then simply, on the same website, submit the related application, giving them control over managing their military careers," said Pague. "The capability to review, coordinate and do personnel actions will still be available within the vPC-GR Dashboard, but there be more options to access the online services directly." _ _

The tailored AFPERS home pages will also have "Most Viewed Articles" and "Announcements for Airmen" sections to keep Airmen updated on personnel policy changes and share information that other Airmen from their Air Force component are viewing. The home pages will also have a unique search capability that allows Airmen to look for personnel information specific to their component.

"We need to accommodate Airmen who know what personnel actions they need to perform as well as Airmen who need additional information about personnel programs and policies," said Carroll.

The objective of the AFPERS website and Total Force Service Center is to centralize all total force personnel

services and create a single access platform for all Regular Air Force, Guard, Reserve, civilians and retirees.

"Creating user-centric home pages for each Air Force component takes us one step closer to providing Airmen with the knowledge and self-service applications to perform all their personnel business online," said Carroll.

For more information on personnel services and self-service applications, log onto <https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil> [<https://gum-crm.csd.disa.mil/>]. All Regular Air Force, Guard, Reserve and civilian Airmen will need to create an account to log into the personnel services website using their common access card or a login name and password. Guard and Reserve Airmen with vPC-GR accounts who have not yet logged into AFPERS should use their vPC-GR user ID and password at first login. Once Airmen have an account created, they will be able to access personnel services, applications and information from home or any military computer.

Go online to <http://www.afpc.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-110929-007.pdf> for a detailed walk-through of the new features on the AFPERS home pages.

OHIO KEEPS MILITARY VOTERS INFORMED WITH NEW WEBSITE

This info is too good not to share. Ohio is doing great things for our military members and their families. They recently launched www.OhioMilitaryVotes.com and the Military Ready-to-Vote program to help make voting while on Active Duty as straightforward and hassle free as possible. Through email reminders and social media, they'll keep you up-to-date on important deadlines and other relevant information.

If you are an Active Duty or overseas voter and you have not yet done so, please follow this link and fill out the Federal Post Card Application (FPCA), print it and mail it back. Note you also can use FVAP's online wizard at FVAP.gov. By filling out the

FPCA you are both registering to vote and requesting an absentee ballot for the upcoming November election. This form also serves to update your voting address if it has changed since you last voted. If you have any questions, please visit the questions and answers section at www.OhioMilitaryVotes.com or contact Ohio Secretary of State's military liaison at OMV@ohiosecretaryofstate.gov or (877) SOS-OHIO (767-6446) ext. 4.

Ballot Tracking

When you receive your absentee ballot, please make note of the special tracking number which will allow you to follow the status of your ballot and

verify that your county board of elections has received it once you have completed, signed and returned it.

Statewide Ballot Issues Information

In addition to voting on a number of local candidates and issues specific to your county, there are three statewide ballot issues on which all Ohio voters will have the opportunity to weigh in this November 8, 2011. You can read more about State Issues 1, 2 and 3 here (<http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/elections/IssueProcBallotBd/BallotBoard.aspx>). For more information about the local candidates and local issues that will be on your ballot, contact your local board of elections.

NEW ANG REFERRAL PROGRAM

The ANG has reinvigorated its referral program. Though G-RAP is not back and you can no longer earn cash for helping people join the ANG, they have started up a tiered marketing campaign to support referral accessions.

“The Air National Guard Referral Rewards Program” was created for you, current and retired Air Guard members, who are helping to recruit/refer new Airmen.

Rewards are redeemed via a tiered system. After your first recruit joins, you can choose a reward from the first tier. When your second recruit joins, you can pick a prize from the second tier, and so on. The more new Airmen you find, the more valuable the rewards you are eligible to receive.

Certain hard-to-fill jobs are designated “Critical AFSCs” - if you find a recruit to fill one of these positions, you will be eligible for premium rewards. But no matter what positions you fill, you can receive some pretty amazing items - from custom backpack and fitness kits, to a stainless steel Cuisinart espresso maker or bottle wine cellar, to an iPad2 kit, to 3D HD home theatre system, and more). Refer to the website below for more info and to sign up.

YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE!!

Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI)

Traumatic Injury Protection Program (TSGLI)

What Is TSGLI?

The Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance **Traumatic Injury Protection program (TSGLI)** is a rider to Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance (SGLI). The TSGLI rider provides for payment to service members who are severely injured (on or off duty) as the result of a traumatic event and suffer a loss that qualifies for payment under TSGLI. Web site: <http://www.insurance.va.gov/sqliSite/TSGLI/TSGLI.htm>

Who Is Covered Under TSGLI?

- **Effective 1 December 2005** – all service members covered under the basic SGLI are automatically covered with TSGLI.
- **Currently**, service members who were severely injured between October 7, 2001 and November 30, 2005, were qualified for a TSGLI payment only if their injury was incurred during Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) or Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF).
- **As a result of the Veterans' Benefit Improvement Act of 2010, - effective 1 October 2011** – TSGLI will be payable for all qualifying injuries incurred during the period 7 October 2001 – 30 November 2005, regardless of where it occurred or whether the member had the basic SGLI coverage at the time of injury.

Who are TSGLI Payments Designed to Help?

TSGLI payments are designed to help traumatically injured service members and their families with financial burdens associated with recovering from a severe injury. TSGLI payments range from \$25,000 to \$100,000 based on the qualifying loss suffered.

Can the Service Member Decline TSGLI?

TSGLI coverage is automatic for those insured under basic SGLI and cannot be declined. The only way to decline TSGLI is to decline basic SGLI coverage.

How Much Does TSGLI Cost?

The premium for TSGLI is a flat rate of \$1 per month for most service members. Service members who carry the maximum SGLI coverage of \$400,000 will pay \$26.00 per month for SGLI and \$1.00 for TSGLI for a total of \$27.00 per month.



The 179th Airlift Wing's C-27J Spartan is captured taking off at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan by a deployed 179th photographer. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Joe Harwood)



Buckeye
AIRLIFTER

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 Staff Sgt. Robert Koehler
 Staff Sgt. Joe Harwood
 Airman 1st Class Stephanie Carroll
 Senior Airman Dustin Edgell