

The United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps
America's Health Responders




LCDRs Barbara Mason (Nurse), Steven Rush (Pharmacist), and Nuri Tawwab (Pharmacist) 13 April 2021

U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSIONED CORPS
INTRODUCTION




In Officio Salutis

- Established in 1889, the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps is solely committed to protecting the public's health.
- The Commissioned Corps is part of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and is overseen by the Assistant Secretary for Health.
- The U.S. Surgeon General and the Deputy Surgeon General provide operational command of the Commissioned Corps.

COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE OVERVIEW | 2

U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSIONED CORPS
ABBREVIATED HISTORY



- 1798** Act for the Relief of Sick and Disabled Seamen
- 1870** Marine Hospital Service
- 1871** First Supervising Surgeon (later Surgeon General) Dr. John Maynard Woodworth
- 1878** National Quarantine Act
- 1889** Legislation created the Commissioned Corps
- 1912** Public Health Service (with broadened powers)
- 1930** Parker Act: Expanded Public Health Service to Non-Physicians
- 1955** Establishment of the Indian Health Service
- 1979** Department of Health and Human Services established
- 1999** First Dedicated Disaster Response Mission for the Commissioned Corps (20,000 Kosovo refugees)

COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE OUR HISTORY | 3

Who We Are

The Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service is one of the eight uniformed services, and is the only one dedicated solely to protecting America's public health

- **6,000+** public health professionals dedicated to addressing public health and providing clinical care.
- **One of eight uniformed services** and the only one dedicated solely to protecting America's public health.

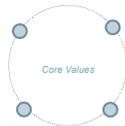


OUR MISSION AND VALUES

Protect, promote, and advance the health and safety of the nation

Leadership
We provide vision and purpose in public health through inspiration, dedication and loyalty.

Integrity
We exemplify uncompromising ethical conduct and maintain the highest standards of responsibility and accountability.



Service
We are committed to public health through compassionate actions and stewardship of time, resources, and talents.

Excellence
We exhibit superior performance and continuous improvement in knowledge and expertise.

What We Do

- **Provide essential health services**
We go where most do not go to provide care for vulnerable and underserved populations.
- **Serve on the frontline of public health emergencies**
We respond quickly to natural disasters, disease outbreaks and global public health emergencies as well as serve on humanitarian missions.
- **Lead public health programs and policy development**
We utilize our experience, skills, and networks to provide leadership within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and throughout the federal government.
- **Advance innovation and science**
We work at the forefront of medical challenges like COVID-19, cancer, and the opioid crisis.



Benefits of Service

Career Diversity

- Ability to create your own career path focused on health services practice, policy and programs, while working across the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and with other federal agencies

Professional Development

- Training and educational opportunities for service leadership and career advancement

Work/Life Balance

- 30-day paid leave per year that begins to accumulate on the first month of active duty

Financial Advantages

- Nontaxable housing and subsistence allowance with possibility of specialty pay
- Comprehensive, economical health benefits for Public Health Service officers and their families
- 401-style retirement plan, life insurance and survivor benefits

COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE | BENEFITS OF SERVICE | 7

U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE COMMISSIONED CORPS

WHERE WE WORK

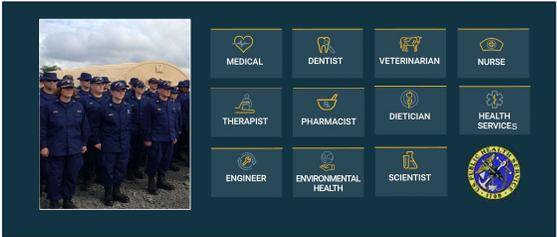
More than 6,000 officers in 800 locations, all 50 states and numerous foreign assignments including the World Health Organization

- Department of Health and Human Services
 - CDC, CMS, FDA, HRSA, IHS, NIH, SAMHSA
- Department of Defense
- Department of Homeland Security
- U.S. Agency for International Development
- Federal Bureau of Prisons
- State Governments and Local Agencies



COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE | WHERE WE WORK | 8

PROFESSIONAL CATEGORIES



COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE | PROFESSIONAL CATEGORIES | 9

NURSE

- Address critical public health needs, both domestic and globally and provide care for the nation's most vulnerable populations.
- Work in diverse roles across the federal government to provide clinical care, develop health policy, perform research, and lead public health programs.
- Assess needs and identify barriers, inequities and health disparities through data analysis.
- Translate evidence-based research, findings, and solutions into action.
- Contribute to the health and wellness of individuals and communities.



READINESS AND DEPLOYMENT

The Office of the Surgeon General, through Commissioned Corps Headquarters, is responsible for the coordination of readiness and deployment for:



- Domestic and international operations
- Teams and individuals
- Humanitarian assistance
- Disaster relief
- Emergency response
- Global training



COVID-19 Response >4,500 Officer Deployments | 200,000 Deployment Days



Commissioned Corps Officers are at the forefront of the COVID-19 response serving in multiple roles: leadership, operations, screening, quarantine, case management, and human services



BLACK COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ADVISORY GROUP (BCOAG)

BCOAG Mission

Provides advice and consultation to the Surgeon General on:

- Issues of interest and concerns of Black officers.
- Issues relating to the professional practice and personnel activities of civil service and other Commissioned Corps personnel.
- Supports the Surgeon General's initiatives.
- Establishes and supports programs to serve minority and local communities to assist in reducing health disparities.

One of four chartered minority advisory groups within the USPHS – including Asian and Pacific Officers Advisory Committee (APOAC), Hispanic Officers Advisory Committee (HOAC), American Indian Alaska Native Commissioned Officers Advisory Committee (AIANCOAC).

COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE | BCOAG | 17

BCOAG Service to Our Officers & Communities

<p>OFFICERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentoring • Curriculum Vitae (CV)/PHS Awards Review • Career Development/Leadership Training • Networking Opportunities 	<p>COMMUNITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-Katrina New Orleans, LA (NOLA) Mission • Hometown Mission • K-12 STEM & Science Fairs • Surgeon General Initiatives
---	---

COMMISSIONED CORPS OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE | BCOAG | 18

Thank You!

LCDR Barbara Mason
Nurse
Barbara.Mason@hhs.gov

PHSOS-CADQuestions@hhs.gov
BCOAGRecruitment@gmail.com

LCDR Nuri Tawwab
Pharmacist
Nuri.Tawwab@ihs.gov

LCDR Steven Rush
Pharmacist
Steven.J.Rush7.mil@mail.mil



COMMISSIONED CORPS
OF THE U.S. PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE

usphs.gov