

Spring 2024

NAVY MEDICAL CORPS MAGAZINE



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Never to Sail Alone:

Navy Wounded Warrior is Mission Essential

By Alyssa E. Ross, PCM, Marketing Analyst – Navy Wounded Warrior

When CAPT Wayne Burr received orders to CNIC headquarters at the Washington Navy Yard as the Senior Medical Advisor for Navy Wounded Warrior (NWW), he initially did not know what to expect. “I did not know anything about the program,” stated CAPT Burr, “nor did I know who it was for.” Like CAPT Burr, many may not know how this program provides vital assistance to active duty Navy and Coast Guard service members through the difficult times of being medically discharged.

NWW provides proactive, tailored support, including MEB guidance, family bedside travel, caregiver respite, and so much more. This enables enrolled service members to focus on their recovery goals and well-being and supports a smooth transition to the Department of Veterans Affairs when a medical condition prohibits continued service.

Eligibility for the program is not limited to Sailors and Coast Guardsmen

with combat-related wounds or injuries; it also encompasses those with serious, non-combat-related injuries or serious physical or psychological illnesses. Participation is voluntary, and service members must be enrolled to take advantage of the services provided.

“The variety of opportunities to serve this population as a physician is endless!” claims CAPT Burr. “In one tour, I have learned much more about the transition process, served as the team physician for the Navy’s adaptive sports team, and visited many locations including Hawaii. I highly recommend anyone to jump at a chance to work or volunteer with this amazing program.”

ABOVE: San Diego, CA. HM3 Kolawole Arubuolawe competes in track at the 2023 Department of Defense Warrior Games Challenge.



LEFT: Port Hueneme, CA. Recovery Care Coordinator Stanford Parks discusses Navy Wounded Warrior's services at the Fleet and Family Support Center. **BOTTOM:** JBPHH. Service members participated in a resources and resiliency fair at during Warrior Care Month 2022 (US Navy photo by Melvin J Gonzalvo).



LEFT: USS George Washington (CVN-73). Navy Wounded Warrior staffers Marc Puco and Terry Labeff generate program awareness.



LEFT: CAPT Wayne Burr meets with CDR Jeffrey Bulluck, Director, Intrepid Spirit Center Camp Pendleton.

Learn more at navywoundedwarrior.com.
To refer a service member, call 855-NAVY-WWP (855-628-9997) or email navywoundedwarrior.fct@navy.mil.
Guest speakers are available for staff education.

Camp Lejeune's Inaugural Sports Medicine Fellows Train to Support Our Warrior Athletes

CDR Emily Crossman, MC, USN, Program Director
Camp Lejeune Sports Medicine Fellowship

Until this academic year, Camp Pendleton served as the Navy's sole Sports Medicine Fellowship site. Citing a need for more Sports Medicine physicians, Navy Medicine pushed for a second Sports Medicine fellowship in Camp Lejeune, NC. As the inaugural fellows, LCDR David Harris and LT Peter Fischer are gaining valuable skills and molding the Navy's newest Sports Medicine Fellowship.

LCDR Harris born in Maine attended medical school at the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine on an HPSP scholarship. He completed a Family Medicine Residency at Camp Pendleton in 2016. LCDR Harris excelled as a Family Medicine Physician in several clinical and operational billets in San Diego and Hawaii before reporting to Camp Lejeune.

A native of Michigan, LT Fischer earned an HPSP scholarship to attend Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his Family

Medicine Residency at McCaren Healthcare Bay Region, Michigan State University. Before fellowship, LT Fischer was stationed at Recruit Training Depo, Great Lakes, where he took care of the Navy's newest members.

During their one-year fellowship, Drs. Fischer and Harris are immersed in musculoskeletal health and human performance. In addition to working in the Navy Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation Team (SMART) clinics spread around Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, they rotate through various other specialty clinics at Naval Medical Readiness Training Command Camp Lejeune. The fellows work with Orthopedic Surgeons, Physical Therapists, Pain Management specialists, civilian Sports Medicine physicians, and the Human Performance Team at Marine Special Operations Command.

LCDR Harris and LT Fischer provide sideline coverage of local sports teams, including football and wrestling, and they collaborate with athletic trainers to offer training room coverage of athletes. In the fall, they joined fellows from across the mid-Atlantic region to care for athletes at the world-renowned Marine Corps Marathon in DC. Recently, they spent two weeks providing sports medicine coverage for the Navy's Adaptive athletes competing at the Wounded Warrior Trials in Hawaii.

While sports coverage and hands-on care of our warrior athletes is a large part of the year, academics and didactics are also emphasized. Lectures, journal clubs, and hands-on musculoskeletal ultrasound training occur twice weekly.

Not only have these two focused on requirements for passing the end-of-year Certificate of Added Qualification (CAQ) exam, but their invaluable insight improves the growing fellowship. Their mature and constructive feedback throughout the year will enhance the fellowship for next year's fellows. LCDR Harris and LT Fischer are headed to operational units after finishing fellowship, where their new skills will be invaluable in caring for our warrior athletes.



LEFT: LCDR Harris provides sideline treatment to a Navy Wounded Warrior Trial competitor.
RIGHT: LT Fischer evaluates and provides DMT to an injured competitor.

Want to contribute?

If you have an interesting story or some advice for the Corps? Always wanted to try your hand at writing? Email CDR Robyn Treadwell with your ideas and see your article in the next edition of the Medical Corps Magazine.

Looking forward to hearing from you!

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For further assistance, please feel free to contact us directly...

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