



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TASK FORCE ON THE CARE, MANAGEMENT, AND TRANSITION OF RECOVERING WOUNDED, ILL, AND INJURED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED

**Embassy Suites DC Convention Center, Washington, DC**

## **Business Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, 22 February 2011**

The meeting began at 8:11am with an opening by Executive Director and Designated Federal Officer (DFO), Ms. Denise Dailey. Members of the Task Force who attended are in Appendix A. Members of the public who attended are in Appendix C. This was followed by an opening statement by Dr. Karen Guice, the Non-Department of Defense Co-Chair, and a reintroduction of the members.

The Army began their briefings with an introduction and overview of wounded, ill and injured (WII) programs by Brigadier General (BG) Darryl Williams and Colonel Catherine Mozden. Colonel Greg Gadson (Army Wounded Warrior Program Director) also offered information. BG Williams explained the steps that the Army has taken since the 2007 *Washington Post* articles on the issues at Walter Reed Army Hospital, along with the framework of the Warrior Transition Command. Dr. Melissa Gliner followed with a Warrior Transition Command Satisfaction brief. The Task Force requested information, including material to support the selection of best practices, the changes to and new locations of Warrior Transition Units (WTUs) and Community-Based Warrior Transition Units (CBWTUs), specific information on the surveying of service members, and staffing percentages. They also requested that Fragmentary Orders 3 and 4 be provided to them, along with specific data on how WTU are manned. COL Mozden and LTC (P) Suzanne Scott then presented a briefing on the non-clinical aspects of the Warrior Care and Transition Program (WCTP) and the support given to caregivers. The members asked a number of questions regarding the recovering service members that are not on base and do not receive base-centric care.

After a fifteen minute break for lunch between 11:30-11:45am, Mr. Christopher Watson (IMCOM FMWRC), Ms. Colleen Tuddenham (DA OACSIM) gave a briefing on Solider Family Assistance Centers (SFACs) and LTC (P) Scott on the clinical aspects of the WCTP. The members requested more information on the amount of case managers and register nurses at individual sites and also the staffing of SFACs. Following this, COL John Stasinios, M.D. and MAJ Sarah Goldman presented on the services for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), explaining how Army MEDCOM works to meet the increasing amount of behavioral health demands. COL Daniel Cassidy and COL Sheila Hobbs gave the final briefing of the day on the integrated disability evaluation system (DES), which included the steps the Army is taking to expand their DES in order to finish by the end of FY2011 and to



## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TASK FORCE ON THE CARE, MANAGEMENT, AND TRANSITION OF RECOVERING WOUNDED, ILL, AND INJURED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED

work with the new integrated disability system (IDES). Throughout all the briefings, BG Williams and COL Gadson provided additional comments and clarifications for the members. Due to a change in the availability of briefers, the Army was unable to present their brief on Programs for Transition Assistance.

At 5:25pm, Lt Gen Green closed the meeting for the day.

### Wednesday, 23 February 2011

The second day of the meeting opened at 8:15am with a discussion of the upcoming visit to Brooke Army Medical Center (Fort Sam Huston) and Wilford Hall Medical Center (Lackland Airforce Base) in San Antonio, TX. The members also discussed mild TBI (mTBI), PTSD, and treatment for these conditions, such as hyperbaric treatments. Members of the Task Force who attended are at Appendix B. Members of the public who attended are at Appendix D. This was followed by a short break from 9:02-9:15am and then a public forum section with a prepared statement by Mr. Skip Rogers of Able Forces at 9:16am regarding recovering warriors and employment. Afterwards, Lt Col Sean Keane was introduced formally by Dr. Guice as the newest member of the Task Force, filling the Marine Corps position vacated by Colonel Timothy Frank, who retired earlier in the year.

The Air Force began their set of briefings following this introduction with Col Wendy Lee briefing on the Air Force Clinical Case Management program, which was originally second in the Air Force's agenda. After a number of questions from the Task Force, Lt Col Beth Demmons presented an overview of the Air Force Warrior Care programs (non-clinical), providing the originally scheduled first briefing. The members requested a list of best practices for non-clinical case management. After a break for lunch at 12:48pm, the Air Force resumed at 1:08pm with a PTSD presentation by Lt Col David Dickey and a TBI brief by Maj Laura Baugh. The members requested more information regarding service members that are identified with PTSD after their initial medical evaluations or treatments. Col Catherine Biersack provided additional comments and clarification for the members. Another break is taken at 2:12pm, during which CDR Coakley left for the day.

The members resumed after this short break and began discussing the organization of future meetings. They suggested that it might be beneficial to include panel discussions with subject matter experts, on topics such as the Army Pain Management Task Force, approaches on TBI, and employment of recovering warriors and veterans. They also noted a need to have an informal time to discuss administrative items and specific time at the next meeting to discuss the



## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TASK FORCE ON THE CARE, MANAGEMENT, AND TRANSITION OF RECOVERING WOUNDED, ILL, AND INJURED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED

installation visits they attended. They requested to have briefings sent to them farther out, so that they could review the material and have pointed questions for the briefers.

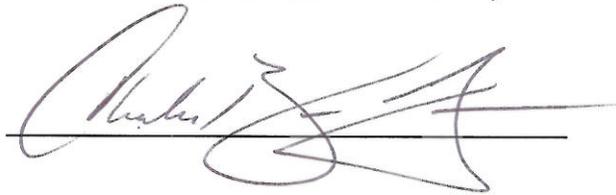
Ms. Dailey then directed the Task Force to the focus group protocols in their briefing books. Dr. Suzanne Lederer (CTR) of the Task Force research team then provided an overview to the members regarding the upcoming focus groups and a series of questions that they could ask at these groups. The members discussed a number of issues and questions they had regarding the focus groups, including how they should amend the protocols and their personal experiences with some of the populations that would be involved in the groups. Dr. Lederer outlined the basic format of the focus group experience and gave some of her personal experiences with conducting focus groups. Mr. Rehbein left for the day at 5:04pm.

At 5:24pm, Lt Gen Green closed the meeting. The next Task Force meeting will occur on 30-31 March 2011.

Verified by:

Department of Defense Co-Chair:

Lieutenant General Charles B. Green, M.D.



Date: 5/19/2011

Verified by:

Non-Department of Defense Co-Chair:

Dr. Karen S. Guice, M.D., M.P.P.



Date: 5/19/2011



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TASK FORCE ON THE CARE, MANAGEMENT, AND TRANSITION OF RECOVERING WOUNDED, ILL, AND INJURED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED

Appendix A:

**Tuesday, 22 February 2011**

**Members Present:**

- Mr. Ronald Drach (RWTF Member)
- Dr. Russell Turner (RWTF Member)
- Dr. Steven Phillips (RWTF Member)
- Mr. David Rehbein (RWTF Member)
- CDR Timothy Coakley (RWTF Member)
- Lt Gen Charles B. Green (DoD Co-Chair, RWTF Member)
- Dr. Karen S. Guice (Non-DoD Co-Chair, RWTF Member)
- MG Karl Horst (RWTF Member)
- Mrs. Suzanne Crockett-Jones (RWTF Member)
- Lt Col Sean P. K. Keane (RWTF Member)
- MSgt Christian MacKenzie (RWTF Member)
- MG Richard Stone (RWTF Member)

**Members Not Present:**

- Mr. Justin Constantine (RWTF Member) [Prior work obligations]
- US National Guard Position Awaiting New Appointment

**Members Arrived Late:**

- Lt Col Sean Keane (RWTF Member)

**Members Left Early:**

- None



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TASK FORCE ON THE CARE, MANAGEMENT, AND TRANSITION OF RECOVERING WOUNDED, ILL, AND INJURED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED

Appendix B:

Wednesday, 23 February 2011

## Members Present:

- Mr. Ronald Drach (RWTF Member)
- Dr. Russell Turner (RWTF Member)
- Dr. Steven Phillips (RWTF Member)
- Mr. David Rehbein (RWTF Member)
- CDR Timothy Coakley (RWTF Member)
- Lt Gen Charles B. Green (DoD Co-Chair, RWTF Member)
- Dr. Karen S. Guice (Non-DoD Co-Chair, RWTF Member)
- MG Karl Horst (RWTF Member)
- Mrs. Suzanne Crockett-Jones (RWTF Member)
- Lt Col Sean P. K. Keane (RWTF Member)
- MSgt Christian MacKenzie (RWTF Member)
- MG Richard Stone (RWTF Member)

## Members Not Present:

- Mr. Justin Constantine (RWTF Member)
- US National Guard Position Awaiting New Appointment

## Members Arrived Late:

- Lt Col Sean Keane (RWTF Member) at 8:25am

## Members Left Early:

- CDR Coakley at 2:16pm
- Mr. Rehbein at 5:04pm



# DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE TASK FORCE ON THE CARE, MANAGEMENT, AND TRANSITION OF RECOVERING WOUNDED, ILL, AND INJURED MEMBERS OF THE ARMED

Appendix C:

Sign-in Sheet:

Appendix D: