



SPRING 2021

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Message from the Director

Welcome to the AFCP Program’s Spring Newsletter

Welcome to the spring issue of the AFCP Program newsletter! A new year brings new prospects, new priorities, and the opportunity to bring a renewed energy to our work. Partnerships act as a force multiplier, vaulting our abilities beyond what one could accomplish alone. The partnerships described in this issue are truly inspirational: from collaborations that pursue the potential of artificial intelligence, to efforts to improve our national cybersecurity, these partnerships are shining beacons.

Since the formal AFCP inception in 2012, the Program and its participants have accumulated significant institutional knowledge. To share this knowledge and to further shine a light on partnership successes, this edition features an “Ask the Expert” section. This edition features valuable insight from Goodfellow AFB’s partnership point person, Stephanie Grunze-Swanson.

Also shared are several notable provisions from the fiscal year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Read on to learn about another year’s worth of funding for the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP), and the renaming of the Department of Defense’s (DOD’s) Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) – now the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC).

Additionally, we have two upcoming events from the Association of Defense Communities (ADC) to advertise: a broadcast series called ADC Live that commenced in March, as well as ADC’s Installation Innovation Forum (IIF), which is scheduled for November.

Finally, we always strive to find new and better ways to connect with you. To that end, check out our new public website, part of the larger Assistant Secretary of Air Force for Installations, Environment, and Energy site:

<https://www.safie.hq.af.mil/Programs/Installations/Community-Partnership-Program/>

Respectfully,

TERAN L. JUDD

Director, Community Partnership & Encroachment



Partnership Spotlights

Ellsworth AFB Participates in National Security Innovation Network

We face a changed security environment: near-peer competition, a waning technological and economic edge – our modern context demands agile, creative, and interdisciplinary solutions to these pressing problems. The National Security Innovation Network (NSIN) arose as a means of connecting defense, academia, and venture communities to solve these problems. One NSIN participant is Ellsworth AFB.



NSIN

Ellsworth AFB is collaborating with multiple universities on a variety of projects. Through NSIN, the installation is able to partner with the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology (SD Mines) to build a new application to process and organize data to enable easy analysis for decision making. This project aims to optimize Air Force personnel into the best maintenance tasks and highlight the need for additional training to maximize their potential. Another SD Mines team worked with the Civil Engineer

Squadron to research a means of reducing degradation to runway concrete slabs, which could save the installation significant maintenance costs. SD Mines also offers a "Hacking for Defense" course that allows students to work with the defense and intelligence communities to address the nation's emerging threats and security challenges. In addition to SD Mines' work with Ellsworth Airmen, the university recently gave an educational presentation on inclusive leadership to an Ellsworth's leadership team. Furthermore, SD Mines staff are working on a drone operators training and competition between the students and Security Forces.

NSIN enables Ellsworth AFB to collaborate with innovators far beyond its region. In another collaborative effort, Ellsworth AFB is working with San Diego State University (SDSU) to develop a 3D-printed device that wind-proofs trash cans by preventing lids from being opened and trash spilling in high winds. Another SDSU project is underway to create a drone detection system that operates on sound. There are several other projects that will launch soon in collaboration with SD Mines, The University of Texas at Austin, Tufts University, University of California Davis, Worcester Polytechnic Institute, University of California Berkeley, and Princeton University.

Ellsworth AFB is thrilled with the doors that NSIN has opened, and encourages other Air Force bases to investigate this exciting prospect. For further information about NSIN, visit: <https://www.nsin.us/>. Or, contact Ellsworth AFB's Ms. Loretta Vega at loretta.vega@us.af.mil.

Pittsburgh ARS Pursues Joint AI Research, Medical Readiness Programs

Pittsburgh Air Reserve Station (ARS) is surrounded by a host of strategic opportunities, and senior leadership at the base wishes to capitalize on their geography. Leading the innovative charge are 911th Airlift Wing (AW) Commander Col John Robinson and Vice Commander Col. John Boccieri, who are building strong collaborations in their partnership portfolio.

Among those collaborations are efforts to expand a cultural shift from the way airplanes are maintained as the unit converts from a C-130 Hercules tactical airlift mission to a C-17 Globemaster III global strategic airlift mission. Maintenance policy has shifted away from "fly to fail" on parts and components on the aircraft. Instead, policy now emphasizes predictive, conditions-based maintenance, or CBM, which can save costs and allow a more efficient use of resources.

"A great opportunity is in front of us," Robinson said. "Artificial intelligence research conducted by Carnegie Mellon University has its roots in machine learning, an emerging field of science that uses computer-based algorithms to identify when parts need to be changed. Over the long-term this new CBM model can extend the life of weapons systems like the C-17."



The 911th Aeromedical Staging Squadron practices medical procedures at RMU. (U.S. Air Force photo by Tech. Sgt. Marjorie A. Schurr)



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Pittsburgh ARS is beginning to discuss these strategic research opportunities while working with Carnegie Mellon University professors and the Air Mobility Command. Ultimately, this new research will involve additive manufacturing initiatives through the Air Force Research Laboratory and the Air Force Rapid Sustainment Office.

Another big push for personnel at all levels of the Air Force is readiness. The 911th AW partners with Robert Morris University (RMU) to develop scenarios to simulate medical patient situations to provide training for Airmen. This focused training saves time and money as well as trains students to be ready to take care of wounded warriors. Airmen gain the necessary knowledge and experience to prepare for real world patient care, as well as identify clinical issues that Airmen may have prior to deployment.

“This community partnership expands the scope of connection to university academic programs and adds military value to these engagements,” Robinson added. Since 2019, Airmen have been participating in medical robotic training at RMU, which allows these Airmen to deploy rapidly and fully trained – a benefit for all involved.

Youngstown ARS and Mercy Health Systems Begin Partnership for SimMan Trauma Training

The 910th Medical Squadron (910 MDS) at Youngstown ARS in Northeast Ohio is developing a partnership with Mercy Health Systems (MHS) to utilize a new advanced, adult patient simulator technology called a SimMan© 3G in a mutually-beneficial manner.

Youngstown ARS has one clinical SimMan© 3G manikin and one trauma SimMan© 3G manikin currently in use for training medical reservists in a simulated triage/emergency care environment. The SimMan provides important training during Unit Training Assemblies and Annual Tour training by providing realistic medical emergencies in controlled learning environments similar to what Air Force reservists might face at their deployed locations. Meanwhile, MHS currently has a complete lab, including six SimMan manikins used to train their medical professionals.

This partnership aims to benefit MHS by giving their new SimMan Lab instructors training experience with 910th Airlift Wing Reserve Citizen Airmen, using real world program simulations. Similarly, the 910th Medical Squadron will benefit from the advanced training and experience their reservists will receive.

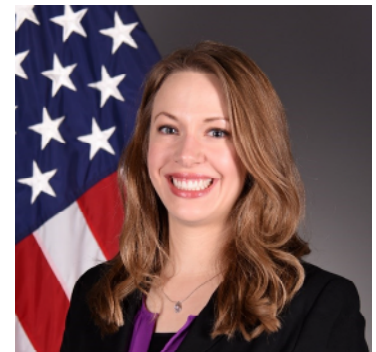
Once COVID precautionary measures subside, the partners plan to send medical reservists to the MHS hospital to participate in training at their lab, and also to bring MHS technicians to the base once the new 910 MDS SimMan lab is set up. In addition, the 910 MDS plans to develop their SimMan lab as a center of excellence available to all Air Force Reserve personnel for their medically-related readiness training. The Air Force Community Partnership Program is a win-win for readiness and for citizen Airmen development by providing real-world readiness applications and by enhancing their collaboration with medical personnel within the community environment.

Ask the Expert

Stephanie Grunze-Swanson, Goodfellow AFB

Welcome to our inaugural “Ask the Expert” section, where we will feature individuals from the Air Force and the community who are leaders in the area of partnerships. For this newsletter, we are fortunate to interview Ms. Stephanie Grunze-Swanson, the AFCP/P4 Program Specialist at the 17th Training Wing (17 TRW), located at Goodfellow AFB in Texas. In this capacity, she manages over 55 partnerships; facilitates collaborative resource sharing and enhanced quality of life initiatives; and develops and increases mission capabilities for community and military partners.

In the last two years, Goodfellow has doubled its number of partnership agreements and signed its first two IGSAs, including the DOD’s first IGSA for contracted quarters and meals. Goodfellow AFB adds these accomplishments to an already-impressive partnership portfolio, which has led to more than \$24 million in financial benefit to the base and the community since fiscal year 2014. The strong working relationship between the base and the community goes beyond a single initiative, and instead includes an emphasis on what Ms. Grunze-Swanson calls “mutual, organic outreach.” The base and the community have six ongoing



Ms. Stephanie Grunze-Swanson, AFCP/P4 Program Specialist at the 17 TRW, Goodfellow AFB



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workgroups. Moreover, this longstanding and holistic relationship allowed the San Angelo region to respond collaboratively to crises such as COVID-19 and recent harsh winter weather conditions.

Ms. Grunze-Swanson has been with the DAF for 13 years as an Active and Reserve Intelligence Officer and is currently in her third year in government civil service. Her military service includes intelligence tactics analysis, support to real-time remote combat operations, Coalition and Joint partner advising, and strategic and operational planning. Prior to her current position, she previously served as the Conflict Resolution Specialist, Community Engagement Lead, and Facilitator for a non-profit organization in Rapid City, SD while her spouse was stationed at Ellsworth AFB.

Read on to hear Ms. Grunze-Swanson's insight and advice from her extensive experience with partnerships!

Why did your installation develop an interest in partnerships?

The San Angelo community and Goodfellow AFB have been in close relationship and partnership since the base's creation in WWII to train pilots. Since then, the commitment to one another has only grown stronger. Decisions like formalizing the relationship in 2014 through the AFCP program and hiring a full time base AFCP Manager were made in order to deliberately harness the existing mutual energy and support into tangible ideas, cost savings, and enhanced quality of life to all in the Goodfellow and San Angelo community. Being intentional allows both strategic alignment and operational projects to better synchronize and endure on all base and community levels.

What successes have come from your collaborations?

Our successes are in the variety and scope of our partnership agreements. Each agreement is applicable to a wide array of individuals and each captures the unique character of our community. We have regular meetings between top community and base leaders to develop and synchronize shared goals and strategies for our community as a whole. We have partnerships that help impact lives in a one-to-one, direct manner, like our Skilled Workforce Development (which helps focus on employment for spouses, dependents, transitioning service members, and veterans), multiple credit articulation agreements (with our local community college, Howard College, and public university, Angelo State University), and even a partnership to bring dogs that are training to become support animals on base to relieve stress for base members. Our success is rooted in our unique identity and missions which led to our multimillion-dollar savings IGSA to secure quarters for military students in technical training.

What is the most important aspect of partnerships?

The most important aspect of partnerships is communication, especially in ensuring all stakeholders and partners are part of the conversation. Too often, an idea gains momentum and begins to finalize without appropriate authorities knowing about it. Or, more commonly, without all potential partners' or end users' knowledge. By deliberately including a large group of partners, you have a higher chance for continued ownership and success because you have explored multiple angles of the need and potential solutions. We have found that partners we previously assumed would not have interest in an idea were the ones who had crucial insights needed to make it succeed. For example, our IGSA for contracted quarters had our Comptroller Squadron involved from the beginning, which helped us identify correct funding sources, options, and complete the best interest analysis for the idea.

NDAAs Highlights

This Year's Legislation Includes Exciting Partnership-Related Measures

This year's NDAA included several exciting provisions for the AFCP Program and our network. The AFCP Program is similarly thrilled that Congress has seen fit to support another year of DCIP. Last year's pilot was enormously popular. Many worthy proposals were submitted, and DOD was disappointed to have to choose so few to fund. We are excited at the prospect of another round – although details of the 2021 program are still under development. As soon as an execution plan, including any ranking system, has been approved, OLDCC will announce it.

This brings us to our next announcement. In an effort to ensure the office's name reflects its work, the Office of Economic Adjustment is now the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation. Despite the change of name, the office's mission remains the same. Please note, OLDCC's website is now: <https://oldcc.gov>.



U.S. Department of Defense
Office of Local Defense
Community Cooperation



Upcoming Events



ADC Live Began 11 March, Installation Innovation Forum Scheduled for November

Though COVID-19 continues to shape the 2021 landscape, we do have two upcoming ADC events we would like to share. Given ADC's previous success with virtual events, the organization is launching ADC Live, a series of television-format news broadcasts that will provide timely information in real time on the key defense issues impacting communities, installations, and the defense economy. The broadcasts are accessible for free, and the first one aired on 11 March. The series will extend through May, and ADC plans to commence a second season in the fall. To learn more, please visit www.defensecommunities.org/events

ADC plans to hold the next IIF in person from 1-3 November, 2021 in San Antonio, Texas. IIF is a professional development forum designed to bring together installation leadership with their community counterparts and top industry experts to share ideas and learn about tangible ways to advance innovation at your base and community. Details will be announced as they become available at ADC's event page, listed above.