

### **SPRING 2022**

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# **Message from the Director**

### Welcome to the AFCP Program Spring Newsletter

Happy New Year, all! Welcome to the Air Force Community Partnership (AFCP) Program's first newsletter of 2022. We have many exciting updates to share with you.

The first is the announcement that the AFCP Partnership Playbook is now available! The Playbook is your comprehensive guide to the tools that make partnerships happen. Each chapter tackles a category of partnership: The chapters open with a Q&A-style narrative that walks the reader through the benefits of the category and gives examples. The chapters then go on to provide reference tables that give not only a summary of each partnership and a brief list of examples, but also an overview of who all is involved in the coordination of the partnership and relevant sources of authority and guidance. This is a great resource for anyone – whether you are totally new to the partnership space, or whether you are already familiar with partnerships but looking for inspiration on how to use them in new ways.

We also wanted to provide an update on the Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP). As you know, DCIP is managed by the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC). The funding level for FY22 has been set at \$90 million, and later this summer OLDCC should be issuing the FY22 Federal Funding Opportunity (FFO) to provide the details for this year's applications. It is important to remember that any project should support military value, should be "shovel ready," and be located outside the fence line. If you have not already done so, now is the time to identify a good candidate project. Visit the OLDCC website for information on previous years' requirements and awardees, and to sign up to receive updates directly from OLDCC:

https://oldcc.gov/defense-community-infrastructure-program-dcip

We also have had partnerships publicized by the Department of the Air Force (DAF). We are proud to say that the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Energy, Installations, and Environment has published an article highlighting the successful collaboration between Altus AFB and neighboring stakeholders to address the region's housing shortage. Many areas around the country are facing similar challenges, and we encourage everyone to look to this effort as a shining example of what is possible. See the Altus article here:

https://www.safie.hq.af.mil/News/Article-Display/Article/2927970/department-of-air-force-community-partnerships-resolve-base-housing-gaps/

In this issue, you can learn about an important milestone for our program: our 500th agreement! Read also about the benefits of a refresh meeting, and about Davis-Monthan AFB's collaboration with the University of Arizona. Additionally, hear from this edition's Ask the Expert, Sandy Person, Executive Director of the Travis Community Consortium. And finally, read about the AFCP Program's experience at the Association of Defense Communities' (ADC) National Summit.

As always, please let us know how the AFCP team can support you and your collaborators!

Respectfully,

# AFCP's 500th Partnership

# Wright-Patterson AFB, City of Riverside Sign Milestone Agreement

Since its establishment in 2013, the AFCP Program has been proud to empower installations and communities to turn shared challenges into shared solutions. To-date, the program has generated more than \$150 million in benefits. These benefits have resulted from the hard work and dedication of our tenacious installation and community leaders.

We are thrilled to share that leaders in the Dayton, Ohio area have helped us reach an exciting milestone: the AFCP Program's 500th agreement! Wright-Patterson AFB needed to make improvements to the roadway leading up to the National Museum of the United States Air Force, the DAF's official museum and an important source of education and outreach to the public. The installation turned to the City of Riverside for help. The project will include pavement planning and overlaying to replace the surface pavement, as well as improve curb exposure and the cross slopes. This will enhance the quality of drainage around the area. The arrangement will be facilitated through an intergovernmental support agreement (IGSA), and funding has been supplied through a grant from the state's Ohio Military Facilities Commission.

We are grateful to the leaders of Wright-Patterson AFB and of the City of Riverside for their hard work. It is such a pleasure to name this exciting IGSA as our 500th agreement. Well done, all - we're still climbing!



Wright-Patterson AFB recently signed our 500th agreement: an IGSA which will benefit the infrastructure surrounding the National Museum of the United States Air Force.



A view from the street of the construction

# **Partnership Spotlights**

### Consider a Refresh!

As we embrace this new year, consider conducting a partnership refresh. Many of our installations and communities did a great job of moving forward with "business as usual" during the pandemic, accomplishing a lot over the past two years. Others had to put partnership efforts on hold or had to focus our partnerships entirely on virus response. Now, we have some breathing room. So, as the year gets underway, consider what you can do to reset your partnership efforts.

Now is the perfect time to reconnect with our partners. Take the time to ask yourselves how your requirements have changed over the past two years, and ask them how their requirements have changed. Lean into this opportunity to reestablish an open and honest dialog, so that you can find new shared solutions. Though pandemic recovery hasn't been linear, and much remains in flux, many of us are fortunate to be in a position to consider holding in person meetings and traveling again.

AFCP Program staff recently facilitated a refresh meeting for Eglin AFB. The refresh sought to orient new stakeholders to the AFCP process and jump start the partnership efforts there – which started in 2014 – while incorporating Hurlburt Field. The process began in July 2021 with an in-person DAF-only brainstorming session, which focused on refining the installation's specific needs.

The next step was to facilitate a dialog between installation and community stakeholders in which both sides could communicate their respective requirements and ideate solutions. Originally planned as an in-person meeting, this dialog was transitioned to a series of virtual meetings due to COVID travel restrictions. In January 2022, AFCP Program staff held three distinct 90-minute virtual sessions, each covering a different topic of interest: infrastructure, quality of life, and education/training/employment. During each session, stakeholders discussed their perspective on relevant challenges and potential solutions, with the installation well prepared to be a leader in the discussion thanks to the DAF-specific meeting in July. Following the meetings, leadership from Eglin AFB and the community are expected to choose a portfolio of initiatives - based on the feedback received in the meetings - on which to focus time and resources going forward.

If your needs are narrower in scope, consider a Staff Assistance Visit (SAV). More targeted than a comprehensive refresh meeting, a SAV can promote partnership ideation and development. Lead Facilitator Brad McRee recently visited JB Charleston to do just that. He spent half a day with the base POC and a few base leaders to hear of their challenges and to suggest possible resources and solutions. The visit culminated with his attendance at a meeting with community partners, during which he was able to brief the positive impact of JB Charleston's partnership efforts to the overall AFCP Program, and provide insights regarding the DAF's perspective on partnerships for the new year. This SAV ultimately facilitated excellent dialog at JB Charleston, and AFCP Program staff even connected JB Charleston with contacts at another DAF installation to share lessons learned and best practices as JB Charleston considers a new partnership.

If you would like AFCP Program staff support when conducting your reassessment, we are available to assist in whatever capacity would be most helpful: from informal emails and phone calls, to formal staff assistance visits and refresh meetings, we can tailor our approach to fit your needs. Contact us at <a href="mailto:SAF.IECommunity.Partnership@us.af.mil">SAF.IECommunity.Partnership@us.af.mil</a> today!

# Davis-Monthan AFB Partners with University on Medical Training



Students can take advantage of a wide variety of tools at the Arizona Simulation Technology & Education Center.

Davis-Monthan AFB in Tucson, Arizona is partnering with the University of Arizona to provide exciting new training opportunities for the 563rd Rescue Group.

The Arizona Simulation Technology & Education Center (ASTEC) at the University of Arizona provides interprofessional learning opportunities in a high-tech, realistically simulated environment. ASTEC features a 35,000 square foot state-of-the-art facility, which opened in November 2019. The facility makes available to students a wide variety of tools, from high-fidelity manikins and a GI Mentor to an Anatomage Table and 3D printing capability. Subsequently, the center engages learners at all levels of healthcare education utilizing high fidelity simulation technology with innovative methods of experiential learning theory. ASTEC also includes a workshop that operates as an innovation space for simulation technology development. The installation's partnership with ASTEC will allow the 563rd Rescue Group to train and utilize the flexible and dynamic workspace allowing for realistic scenario execution.

# **Ask the Expert**

## Ms. Sandy Person, Solano County, CA

This edition's Ask the Expert features Ms. Sandy Person, of Solano County, California. A resident of Solano County for three decades, Ms. Person has more than 35 years of real estate and economic development experience. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the county's Travis Community Consortium (TCC), which was formed in 2003 to formalize the community's support for ensuring Travis AFB has the resources it needs to meet the national security demands of today and the future. Over the years, TCC has campaigned to bring the next generation refueling tanker to Travis AFB, assisted the DAF in the successful bed-down, and advocated with success for hundreds of millions in military construction appropriations to improve Travis AFB. In 2019, the DAF recognized Ms. Person's contributions by naming her as a DAF civic leader – an honor that comes from an Air Staff-level program in which DAF major commands, National Guard Bureau and Headquarters Air Force select outstanding community leaders.

Read on to gain valuable insights into partnership success from this seasoned expert!

Sandy Person, Executive Director of the Travis Community Consortium.

#### Why did your organization develop an interest in partnerships?

As an active and proud defense community supporting Travis AFB, we work to ensure that our shared purpose is reinforced through collaboration, advocacy, and direct support. The TCC is a staunch advocate for the AFCP Program, which highlights

the critical importance of local government being a collaborative partner with military installations and reinvesting resources around bases to help support and enhance military value!

Today, Travis AFB has a \$2.6 billion impact on our economy, and we can strengthen that impact through advocacy, infrastructure investment, and public-public partnerships. Public-public partnerships under the IGSA authority can lower the cost of doing business and create efficiencies for the military, while producing new revenue streams for local governments. Additionally, utility resilience, particularly the power grid, is essential both to the citizens of our region and to Travis AFB. We must continue to invest in upgrading our infrastructure, and, whenever appropriate, include features which support the mission resilience of the base.

#### What did you hope to gain from partnerships?

We now appreciate, perhaps that more than ever, the big issues facing our DAF leadership, service members and their families extend well beyond the fence lines! We are transforming the focus of our partnership and collaborations from cost savings to mission assurance. Currently, we are in the process of exploring both the social and physical infrastructure of our community to better understand where vulnerabilities in our infrastructure might negatively impact Travis AFB's mission assurance. TCC's military installation readiness grant will allow us to quantify critical vulnerabilities and identify mitigation for those vulnerabilities. The Pacific Gas & Electric rolling blackouts during peak fire season helped the region better understand the potential impact of severe weather events and potential adversary action against our critical electrical, communications, and water infrastructure. This collaborative process between our local governments and the base will help identify essential resilience projects for potential DCIP and other grant funding.

The greatest success of our partnership and collaboration efforts has been to help leaders and both sides of the fence appreciate how interdependent our missions truly are.

#### What has been the most important aspect of partnerships?

2020 and 2021 have been impactful and pivotal years for everyone! Today is it vital we understand what our nation's defense leaders need in such a dynamic environment! The communities and DAF installations that are thriving and gaining missions and jobs during the constant churn of budget uncertainty and global dynamics are those who trust each other and work together as a team in aligning efforts to address issues they can influence and be prepared to pivot where necessary!

As we work together to foster new ideas and solutions to make a difference on mission readiness, we believe our strategic focus to sustain and strengthen our installation can best be achieved through building enduring relationships and partnerships that bring together our military, defense communities and private sector stakeholders to support quality of life initiatives for military members and their families and also leverage the capabilities of state and local government agencies to realize greater efficiencies and reduce installation costs.

We believe building those relationships of trust will transcend leadership changes in the community as well as on base and that these partnerships and collaborations will now be part of our collective DNA!

# **Recent Events**

### AFCP Program Attends ADC National Summit

Several members of the AFCP Program team attended the ADC National Summit, held 7-9 March in Arlington, VA. The annual event aims to maximize the impact of America's defense communities and to advance policies and ideas that address the key challenges facing installations, military families and the communities they call home.

This year, the AFCP Program met with multiple DAF communities to share updates, troubleshoot challenges, and advocate for policy that supports partnerships. We appreciated the opportunity to attend, and to see so many of you!



Administrative note: the workflow email for the AFCP Program has changed from the former mail.mil address to SAF.IECommunity.Partnership@us.af.mil. Please verify you are using this email when submitting items to the workflow.