



# Message from the Director

## SUMMER 2020

### IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Director.....	1
Virus Response Effort .....	2
Tyndall, Community Establish Five Partnerships in 90 Days.....	2
Defense Community Infrastructure Program .....	3

## Welcome to the Summer 2020 Newsletter of the Air Force Community Partnership Program

I hope this summer edition of the Air Force Community Partnership (AFCP) Program’s newsletter finds you well. As we all continue to face difficult and evolving challenges, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office if we can be of any assistance.

In this issue, we provide additional information on the fight against COVID-19. We feature the extensive collaboration between Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (AFB) and Dayton, Ohio-area partners to combat the virus. If you have a story about an Air Force installation working with a community partner to address COVID-19, please let us know by contacting my staff at [Hillary.B.Dickinson@leidos.com](mailto:Hillary.B.Dickinson@leidos.com).

I am also excited for the chance to spread good news: Leaders at Tyndall AFB and the surrounding communities worked together to establish an astounding five different partnerships in only 90 days – and in the midst of a global pandemic. Northwest Florida has a long road to recovery after the devastation of Hurricane Michael. But leaders on both sides of the fence have laid the foundation for working together to build a thriving, resilient region.

Finally, in this issue, I am happy to describe how the Secretary of Defense approved the highly anticipated Defense Community Infrastructure Program and how the Department’s Office of Economic Adjustment has commenced implementation. Read on for information about the program’s purpose and implementation process.

I am continually impressed and inspired by the resilience demonstrated by our installations and their community partners. General Charles Brown, our Chief of Staff, recently shared some of his reflections on our current circumstances: “I’m thinking about, without clear-cut answers, I just want to have the wisdom and knowledge to lead during difficult times like these.” Thanks to leadership demonstrated inside and outside the fence line, the Air Force stands ready to fly, fight, and win – no matter the circumstances. As always, if my office can assist in any way, please feel free to reach out to our team.

Respectfully,

**Teran Judd**  
*Director, Community Partnership & Mission Sustainment*

## Virus Response Efforts

### Wright-Patterson AFB, Dayton-Area Providers Team Up to Break Ground on COVID-19 Treatments

Col Bradley Lloyd, Wright-Patterson AFB's Director of Medical Education, recently described his installation's partnership with Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, Ohio as long – to the point where “it's hard to nail down” precisely when the partnership started. The partnership originated decades ago with graduate medical education programming, and eventually became a joint program under Wright State University. The program services about 400 residents, and also includes other allied healthcare positions such as nursing and respiratory therapy. Col Lloyd emphasized how the collaboration benefits both the Air Force and civilian students.



US Air Force Photo by Matthew Clouse

Wright-Patterson AFB and Miami Valley Hospital's collaboration recently gained notoriety for their ground-breaking efforts surrounding COVID-19 convalescence plasma (CCP). The CCP therapy treatment has been administered successfully to 18 patients, and could not have happened without the intellectual capital involved in this partnership. On 24 March, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration released an emergency investigative new drug protocol for COVID-19 CCP for severe disease. CCP involves utilizing plasma from a donor who contracted and recovered from COVID-19. Using an existing protocol as a starting point, the partners developed their own protocol. They eventually created a coalition that included Premier Health, the Dayton VA Medical Center, Kettering Health Network, and Dayton Children's Hospital, and brought a donor to the Dayton area.

On 6 April, the first CCP donation was taken, and it has since been used to treat multiple COVID-19 patients. As Dr. Roberto Colon, who is System Vice President of Quality and Safety for Premier Health, recently told the press, “In just under two weeks, this therapy went from a concept at the Wright-Patterson Medical Center to operational across the city of Dayton.”

Wright-Patterson AFB is engaged in a variety of additional efforts to combat the virus, including: participating in a Community Support Cell; making face coverings; and coordinating volunteers for restocking food.

## Tyndall, Community Leaders Establish Five Partnerships in 90 Days

### The Northwest Florida Region Works Together to Build a Stronger Future

Partnerships can assist in overcoming even the greatest of challenges. Leaders at Tyndall AFB and the surrounding communities have used collaboration as a force multiplier as the folks on both sides of the fence line seek to rebuild after Hurricane Michael, establishing five partnerships in only 90 days. In October 2018, the category five storm devastated the region encompassing Tyndall AFB. With 484 buildings damaged or destroyed, the installation had a long road to recovery. Base and local leaders chose to approach recovery as an opportunity: they set their sights on becoming an example of resilience.

Achieving this aspiration will require a strong working relationship, built with significant time and effort. To lay a foundation and build momentum, the AFCP Program guided the partners in identifying a



US Air Force Photo by 2nd Lt. Kayla Fitzgerald





## Air Force Community Partnership Program Newsletter

series of quick wins: five partnerships that could be established and produce results within a tight timeframe. The result was a truly amazing breadth of collaborations in an impressively short amount of time.

A medical training affiliation agreement with Ascension Sacred Heart Bay Hospital will expand local training options for the 325th Medical Group. A joint mosquito eradication effort with Bay County allows the partners to work in concert instead of working in parallel to address mosquitos. The partners are also utilizing SkillBridge, a Department of Defense (DOD) program that enables service members to work in their local communities during their final months of service to facilitate a smoother transition to civilian life. A partnership focused on spousal employment will provide military spouses access to online job training and priority job placement initiatives. Finally, an agreement between the installation, the Bay County Sheriff's Office, and Gulf State College will facilitate unique training on high-speed vehicle pursuit.

A number of factors contributed to the collaborators' success – namely, the partners' steadfast mission-focus on developing these partnerships within the stated timeframe. AFCP assisted by providing the structure of weekly calls supported by multiple staff, who supplied institutional knowledge and best practices. The partners added further structure and accountability through a steering committee, while work groups ensured that the appropriate subject matter expertise contributed to the process. These factors allowed the partners to succeed, even during the pandemic. While the parties could hold a limited number of in-person discussions, they relied heavily on conference calls and other means of carrying out their work remotely.

Though the Air Force dedicated funds to support the rebuild effort, it will take more money and “years before the rebuild (of Tyndall AFB) will be complete,” stated Col. Brian Laidlaw, who served as the 325th Wing commander during this challenging time. These collaborations are an important step towards ensuring that the entire Northwest Florida region area works in concert to build a strong, thriving region capable of weathering any adversity. And with five partnerships underway, these ambitious collaborators are asking themselves, “What's next?”

# Defense Community Infrastructure Program

## OEA Commences Execution of Pilot Program

The Defense Community Infrastructure Program (DCIP) allows the DOD to make grants for infrastructure projects outside the fence line in order to enhance mission capability and improve quality of life for service members and their families. This presents a major departure from traditional DOD programs, which focus on projects on military installations.

As a pilot program designed to be executed this fiscal year, DCIP has an aggressive timeline – project proposals were due on 26 June. A review panel consisting of Cross-Service/Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) representation assessed submissions, ranking them based on criteria dictated by the Secretary of Defense. The pilot was open to projects that would improve military and family quality of life, enhance military resiliency, or increase military value. Furthermore, projects had to be “shovel-ready,” and have an endorsement from their local installation. On 10 August, the Secretary of Defense instructed the Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA) to invite grant applications to 16 proposals based upon their relative ranking. Grants will be awarded by 15 September, and awardees must countersign and obligate the funds by 23 September. This timeline ensures that money appropriated to support this pilot are utilized by the end of the federal government's fiscal year, when the appropriated funds expire.

The OEA received an impressive array of submissions. While a wide variety of projects – from wastewater treatment plants to schools – fit the initial description, the Secretary of Defense ultimately placed the greatest emphasis on military family quality of life proposals. Invitees represent communities neighboring installations from each military service, including seven from the Air Force. The DOD feels confident that each project selected will contribute meaningfully to the quality of life for service members and their families, as well as residents of surrounding communities.

Though the responsibility for executing this pilot program rests with OEA, the AFCP Program seeks to do everything possible to ensure this pilot goes smoothly in the hopes that the program will be continued in the future.

To learn more, please visit <https://oea.gov/defense-community-infrastructure-pilot-program-dcip>.

