

## **Department of Defense/ Department of Veterans Affairs** to Offer Streamlined Mandatory Annual Training

*A DoD/VA Joint Incentive Fund project has just been approved to deliver streamlined mandatory annual safety and medical Web-based training to 420,000 federal healthcare workers worldwide. The project, which spans five years, funds e-learning software for a common set of healthcare courseware for annual training mandated by The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the Occupational and Safety Health Administration, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.*

The courses will be implemented at DoD sites through MHS Learn, the enterprise e-learning Web portal for the Military Health System and will be delivered to clinical and non-clinical personnel in military treatment facilities, VA hospitals, and clinics around the world.



By offering a standard set of e-learning courses on this mandated training, DoD and VA project net savings of \$15 million in the first year, \$32 million by the second year, \$50 million by the third year, and \$67 million by the fourth year. This annual training required by JCAHO, OSHA, and CDC helps improve the quality and safety of medical care for over nine million veterans and military personnel.

The Joint Incentive Fund, established in 2003, is part of the National Defense Authorization Act. JIF's purpose is to encourage ongoing collaboration between the DoD and VA. JIF proposals are submitted by DoD or VA project sponsors each year, and are approved by the Health Executive Committee. Each project is in response to the DoD and VA Joint Executive Council's goal "to improve the access, quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of healthcare for beneficiaries through collaborative activities."

# DHSS Celebrates Its First Anniversary

*DHSS celebrated its first anniversary as a new program office within the Military Health System Office of the Chief Information Officer. Created in June 2008, DHSS builds or maintains 28 automated information systems used throughout the MHS in three major areas: clinical support, medical logistics, and resources. DHSS products help detect and contain the spread of disease across the world, manage the delivery of pharmaceuticals and medical supplies around the world, and track billions of dollars annually in healthcare services to more than 9.4 million beneficiaries.*

DHSS Program Manager Dr. Dan Magee opened the Falls Church celebration with congratulatory remarks on DHSS accomplishments in the past year. Joining him were Principal Deputy Program Manager Mike Veasey, Clinical Deputy Program Manager Jenna Noble, Resources Deputy Program Manager Mike Smith and Medical Logistics Deputy Program Manager COL Chris Harrington. They described achievements delivered by their divisions and praised the dedicated, motivated and knowledgeable DHSS staff. A celebration was also held at Fort Detrick where nearly half of DHSS's 400-member staff work in support of its Medical Logistics Division.

The following photographs show the celebrations in Falls Church and at Fort Detrick.



# MDR and CDM Data Used to Support Army Suicide Prevention Task Force

*DHSS has provided assistance to the Army Suicide Prevention Task Force using the Clinical Data Mart and the MHS Data Repository.*



One ASPTF goal is to build a comprehensive suicide mitigation database using data captured in AHLTA then passed and stored in the CDM. On June 9, CDM's team provided data for data sampling and analysis by ASPTF. This database and its capabilities will support enterprise wide, population based surveillance reporting for use in the prevention of future suicide incidents or other adverse behavioral and social health outcomes. The database will also serve as a focal point for providing all relevant data to support other authorized studies from the Army Science Board and the National Institute of Mental Health.

The Army Medical Department asked the MDR team to create a one-time extract from 11 data types in less than one week and the extracts were given to the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine. CHPPM will use this data, ranging from 2001 to the present, for research conducted in support of the ASPTF.



CDM is the clinical reporting tool for AHLTA, the military's electronic health record, and allows analysts and clinicians to measure, analyze, and manage performance of direct patient care, wellness, disease prevention, and disease management. MDR is the centralized data repository for the MHS and captures and validates more than 460 DoD health data network systems worldwide.

## **DOEHRS-IH Featured at American Industrial Hygiene Conference**

*The Defense Occupational Environmental Health Readiness System-Industrial Hygiene was featured at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference in Toronto, Ontario Canada June 1-3. Over 5,000 occupational and environmental health and safety professionals from industry, government, private business, labor, and academia attended this international event to learn about the latest occupational and environmental health and safety technology, products, and services.*

DOEHRS-IH reports occupational and environmental health readiness and actively tracks air, water, soil, and environmental hazards for the DoD MHS. DOEHRS-IH provides the ability to capture workplace and environmental exposure information, supports industrial hygiene decisions, and allows direct views of environmental lab results. For more information about DOEHRS-IH, please e-mail [brenda.wolbert@us.army.mil](mailto:brenda.wolbert@us.army.mil).

## **GS1 Conference Washington, D.C.**

*DHSS Medical Logistics staff attended the GS1 Healthcare Conference in Washington, D.C., June 16-18 featuring a presentation by Ms. Kathy Garvin on the DoD/VA Product Data Bank initiative.*

Ms. Garvin described outcomes and lessons learned from this award-winning initiative that has saved the federal government over \$30 million dollars in product price reductions through 2008. The conference featured the use of standards within the supply chain to help increase efficiency and patient safety.

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