



# Quarterly Update

October—December 2017

## CO's SITREP

Col. Lawrence F. Miller

The end of the year, beginning in November with the Marine Corps Birthday and Veterans Day, and through the winter holidays, is a season for reflecting on our individual and collective accomplishments, recognizing those we have lost, and preparing for the year and years ahead.

Without exception, the Marines, Sailors, and civilians of the Wounded Warrior Regiment (WWR) endeavor to improve lives on a daily basis. Our efforts in support of wounded, ill, and injured Marines and Sailors and their families humble me and compel me to keep pushing toward new achievements.

In 2018, the WWR will continue to develop our strategy for future support in a variety of operating environments. Understanding that a reduction in combat operations and casualties gives us an opportunity to establish and publish plans that will facilitate the transition to a high operational tempo environment if and when the time comes.

In addition to having the plans for effective support, WWR must have the right training for our staff to guarantee wounded, ill, and injured service members and their families receive the assistance they deserve. We will focus on a comprehensive, coordinated training plan that ensures the enduring success of the regiment, our staff, and recovering service members and veterans. Most importantly, we will continue to support the Marine Corps in any clime and place.



### Keeping Faith

Marines, Sailors, and their families may receive support from one or more WWR assets due to our holistic approach to care. The numeric portion depicts the total number of service members supported per program this quarter.

322



District Injured Support Coordinators (DISC) / Field Service Representatives (FSR)

470



Reserve Medical Entitlements (RMED)

9,784



Wounded Warrior Call Center and Battalion Contact Centers

696



Medical Section

1,005



Recovery Care Coordinators (RCC)



DISCs / FSRs



322 Total / 90 New Cases

**District Injured Support Coordinators (DISCs)** are mobilized reserve Marines who provide assistance to Marines and Sailors recovering away from military bases, transitioning to veteran status, or medically retired to the Temporary Disability Retired List. **Field Support Representatives (FSRs)** are contracted support that function as DISCs. **This quarter, DISCs and FSRs supported 322 Marines, Sailors, and families, including 90 new cases.**

DISCs and FSRs are geographically dispersed throughout the US to be able to reach a Marine or Sailor in need within 24 hours. They provide care for just one instance or over a period of time.

**Training and support**

Wounded Warrior Regiment district injured support coordinators (DISCs) gathered in Wichita, Kansas, for training November 14-17, 2017. The training allowed the DISCs to share lessons learned, review resources, and build cohesion with one another.



DISCs also enjoyed a surprise from volunteers from Quilts of Valor, which includes the mother of WWR DISC Gunnery Sgt. Sean Smith, Martha Smith. The group creates quilts for service members and veterans who have served in combat. They lent their skills to support the DISCs by sewing each one a quilt.

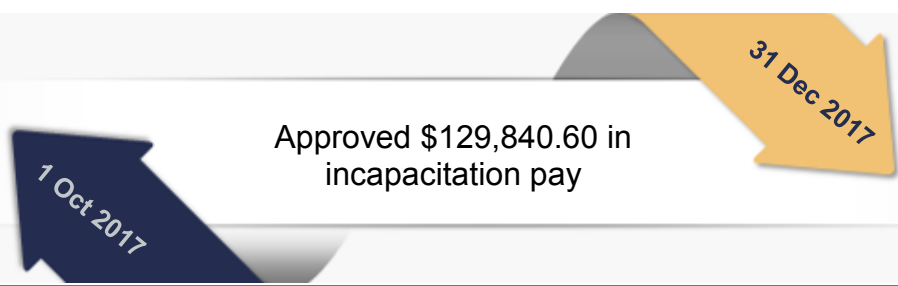


RMED



470 Total / 147 New Cases

**The Reserve Medical Entitlements Determination Section (RMED)** manages all cases of Marine reservists in a medical hold status or a line of duty status. **This quarter, RMED supported 470 Marines, including 147 new cases.** As a Headquarters Marine Corps function, RMED processes initial applications and periodic certifications in support of Marine reservists around the world. Through a liaison at Marine Forces Reserve Command in New Orleans, WWWR is able to ensure coordinated support for the unique needs of wounded, ill, and injured Marine reservists.





# WWCC



**8,534 Total**  
**398 New Cases**



# WWBCC



**1,250 Total**  
**304 New Cases**

The **Sergeant Merlin German Wounded Warrior Call Center (WWCC)** conducts outreach calls to Purple Heart recipients, Temporary Disability Retired List Marines and veterans, and receives calls for assistance on a 24/7 basis. **This quarter, the WWCC supported 8,534 Marines, Sailors, and families, including 398 new cases.** This support is available to anyone, regardless of whether they were previously assigned to the WWR.

The two **Wounded Warrior Battalion Contact Centers (WWBCC)** conduct outreach calls to active duty Marines and Sailors who are recovering with their parent commands. The calls seek to ensure Marines' and Sailors' needs are being met. **This quarter, the WWBCCs supported 1,250 Marines, Sailors and families, including 304 new cases.** The centers also offer support to commands and receive calls for assistance.

## Wounded Warrior Call Center rededication



The Wounded Warrior Call Center (WWCC) rededicated its facility on December 4, 2017, nine years after its initial dedication to Sgt. Merlin German. German was injured in 2005 by a roadside bomb in Iraq. Badly burned, he returned to the US to be treated at Brooke Army Medical Center, where his fortitude and perseverance became an inspiration to all those around him. He was called the Miracle Man after surviving countless surgeries. In spring of 2008, he died as a result of his wounds.

The Wounded Warrior Regiment strives to preserve German's legacy through the WWCC. Each day, staff provide support, information, and hope to service members and veterans. In his honor, the WWCC has emulated the spirit of strength and faith Sgt. German epitomized each day of his recovery and in the hearts of all those who knew him.



# MEDICAL SECTION



**696 Total / 463 New Cases**

The **Medical Section** provides medical subject matter expertise, advocacy, and liaison to the military and civilian medical community through a team of licensed clinical care advocates. The Medical Section reviews incoming cases to assess behavioral health needs and facilitate swift access to care. **This quarter, the Medical Section supported 696 Marines, including 463 new cases.**





RCC



## 1,005 Total / 191 New Cases

**Recovery Care Coordinators (RCCs)** work with Marines & Sailors and their families to develop and execute their comprehensive recovery plans. **This quarter, RCCs supported 1,005 Marines and Sailors, including 191 new cases.** RCCs are part of the Marine's or Sailor's recovery team, working closely with the command and medical team to optimize recovery.

### Training as a team



Each year, the Recovery Care Coordinator Program hosts annual training for its RCCs, providing them up-to-date information on benefits and processes while giving them an opportunity to share lessons learned and resources with each other. Erica Osen, deputy program manager for the WWR RCC program, led a session on setting specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, and time framed (SMART) goals for new RCCS.

A key element of the Marine Corps' Recovery Coordination Program, administered by the WWR, is the consolidation of resources and expertise. RCCs play a key role in a Marine or Sailor's recovery care team. If an RCC needs assistance with pay and entitlements, careers and education, or the integrated disability evaluation system, he or she can walk down the hall or pick up the phone and talk to the regiment subject matter expert.

### Warrior Care Month

In 2008, the Secretary of Defense designated November as Warrior Care Month in order to highlight the array of services and support available to service members and their families who are affected by wounds, illnesses, or injuries.



In November 2017, the Office of the Secretary of Defense hosted several events showcasing efforts ranging from adaptive sports competitions to a Twitter chat and Facebook town hall. Wounded Warrior Regiment leadership participated in the hour long digital town hall, along with representatives from the Office of Warrior Care Policy, and 15 other organizations all dedicated to ensuring those who have served and their families have access to the benefits and assistance they have earned.

### Events

This Quarter

- ◆ SOCOM Warrior Care Conference, Palm Harbor, Fla., October 23– 26.
- ◆ WWR Marine Corps Ball, Arlington, Va., November 10.
- ◆ DISC/FSR Training, Wichita, Kan., November 13- 17.
- ◆ Association of Military Surgeons of the United States Annual Meeting, National Harbor, Md., November 28- December 1.

Next Quarter

- ◆ Marine Corps Trials planning conference, Camp Lejeune, N.C., January 16– 19.
- ◆ WWR section leader training, Camp Pendleton, Calif., January 22– 26.
- ◆ Marine Corps Trials planning conference, Camp Lejeune, N.C., February 12– 14.
- ◆ Marine Corps Trials, Camp Lejeune, N.C., March 17– 24.

# In Memoriam 2017

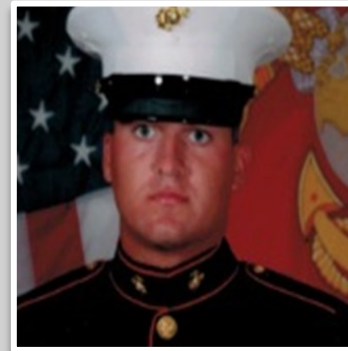
Regardless of whether you are a Marine or Sailor recovering from a wound, illness, or injury or a uniformed or civilian staff member, each person in the Wounded Warrior Regiment family leaves an indelible mark on the organization and all those in it- not just by serving, but often by overcoming challenges with courage and conviction. The motivation and expertise to overcome challenges is fostered by each person within the unit. As the year comes to a close, we remember the strength, commitment, and lives of some of those we lost in 2017.

## Sgt. Charles W. Huff III

Sgt. Charles W. Huff III died at his home in Ellijay, Ga., January 10, 2017. Huff medically retired from the Marine Corps October 30, 2016, after recovering with Wounded Warrior Battalion-East.

Huff enlisted in the Marine Corps May 21, 2007, and attended recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island. He served in multiple locations, including a combat deployment to Afghanistan in 2010 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

He is survived by his wife.



## Maj. David S. Williams

Maj. David S. Williams died at his home in Kingwood, Texas, March 12, 2017.

Williams enlisted in the Marine Corps December 12, 1994, and distinguished himself as a strong leader and rose to the rank of staff sergeant before accepting a commission in December 2002. As an intelligence officer, he completed two combat deployments to Iraq in 2007 and 2009 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom before eventually joining Wounded Warrior Battalion-East.

He is survived by his wife and daughter.



## 1st Sgt. Christopher M. Carlisle

1st. Sgt. Christopher M. Carlisle died on August 18, 2017, while dirt bike racing.

Carlisle enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1996 and throughout his career distinguished himself as a leader and mentor, including during three combat deployments in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. He retired from Wounded Warrior Battalion-West May 30, 2016, after serving as the first sergeant of Company A as part of his recovery process.

He is survived by his son and two daughters.



# In Memoriam 2017

## Gunnery Sgt. Isidro Cervantes

Gunnery Sgt. Isidro Cervantes died in his home in Murrieta, Calif., October 12, 2017.

He enlisted in the Marine Corps in Los Angeles on October 16, 1995, and served faithfully with multiple units. Cervantes was assigned to Wounded Warrior Battalion-West in February 2015.

Cervantes is survived by his wife, daughter, and two sons.



## Staff Sgt. David C. Gentry II

Staff Sgt. David C. Gentry II died in his home in Meeker, Okla., November 18, 2017. Gentry was assigned to Wounded Warrior Battalion-West in July 2017.

Gentry enlisted in the Marine Corps in Potomac, Ill., August 1, 2004, and completed recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. He was a veteran of both Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom where he earned the Combat Action Ribbon and Purple Heart Medal.

Gentry is survived by his wife.



## Sgt. Maj. Steven R. Ellison

Sgt. Maj. Steven R. Ellison died at his home in Jacksonville, N.C., December 5, 2017.

Ellison enlisted in the Marine Corps on November 1, 1994, and served honorably as a motor vehicle operator, motor transportation operations chief, drill instructor, first sergeant, and sergeant major during his 23-year career that sent him to locations around the globe.

He is survived by his wife and three daughters.



## Ms. Linda “Lin” Weidow

Ms. Linda Weidow died at her home in Jacksonville, N.C., December 18, 2017.

Weidow served as the medical advisor at Wounded Warrior Battalion-East from July 2009 until her death. Throughout her career, she sought to help others whenever possible. She served wounded, ill, and injured Marines and their families with compassion, tough love, and a warm heart. Weidow made a lasting contribution to the Marine Corps and the regiment.

She is survived by her husband, daughter, and two grandchildren.

