



# Quarterly Update

July– September 2017

## CO's SITREP

Col. Lawrence F. Miller

Summer is a busy time in the Marine Corps: it is the season for moving, vacations, and preparing for the year to come. For Wounded Warrior Regiment, summer is also the time we are able to highlight the perseverance and spirit of our wounded warriors through adaptive sports events. In July, 38 Marines

competed at the Department of Defense Warrior Games, hosted by the Navy in Chicago. In September, 18 Marines were members of Team U.S. at Prince Harry's Invictus Games in Toronto. Our own Sgt. Ivan Sears was a team co-captain, truly epitomizing the Marine Corps' leadership in the community.

The upcoming months, while less chaotic, are full of ways to celebrate and support wounded, ill, or injured Marines and their families. November is Warrior Care Month; a variety of events will take place around the National Capital Region showcasing the strength and courage of our recovering service members. The WWR Marine Corps Birthday Ball, scheduled for November 10, pays tribute to decades of tradition, a history of service, and the sacrifice of our Marines and their families. And every day, our leaders and staff develop, implement and ensure the best possible support to Marines and Sailors and their families, keeping faith with them always.

Enjoy the season of holidays, family, and festivities that is upon us. **Semper Fi.**



### 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.

8,047



Wounded Warrior Call Center and Battalion Contact Centers

396



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

1,080



Recovery Care Coordinators (RCC)

465



Reserve Medical Entitlements (RMED)

740



Medical Section



## WWCC



**6,977 Total**  
**350 New Cases**



## WWBCC



**1,070 Total**  
**200 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 6,977 Marines, Sailors, and families, including 350 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 1,070 Marines, Sailors and families, including 200 new cases.** The call centers also offer support to commands and receive calls for assistance.

### Purple Heart Awarded

Retired Marine Corps Cpl. John Angell Jr. was awarded the Purple Heart medal on September 22 at Cyprus High School in Magna, Utah, 13 years after his injury. Wounded Warrior Regiment field support representative Dean Sanchez met Angell years after he suffered the traumatic brain injury that would force him to medically retire from the Marine Corps. Sanchez spent several years advocating for Angell and preparing his Purple Heart application.



After several submissions and years of documentation collection, Angell's medal was approved last May. This past month, years of work culminated in celebration during an awards ceremony at the half-time show of a local high school football game. Angell currently teaches math at Cyprus High School.



## DISCs / FSRs



**396 Total / 114 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 396 Marines, Sailors, and families, including 281 new cases.**

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



## RCC



**1,080 Total / 220 New Cases**

**Recovery Care Coordinators (RCCs)** work with WII Marines & Sailors and their families to develop and execute their comprehensive recovery plans. **This quarter, RCCs supported 1,080 Marines and Sailors, including 220 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.

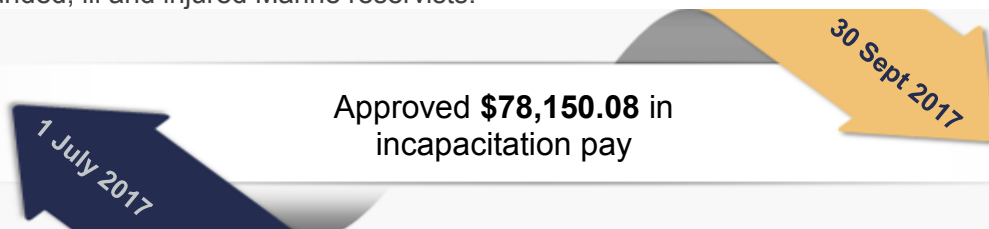


## RMED



**465 Total / 176 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 465 Marines, including 176 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, WWR is able to ensure coordinated support for the unique needs of wounded, ill and injured Marine reservists.



## MEDICAL SECTION



**740 Total / 332 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 740 Marines, including 332 new cases.**



The Medical Section is currently advocating for 53 high-visibility cases by monitoring their medical records in order to engage with medical personnel when necessary and keeping the commander apprised of changes in their condition or needs.

High visibility cases include advanced and terminal cancer cases that have metastasized and have a limited life expectancy; medical significant cases that require attention; or Marines whose medical care has received special interest from leadership.

# Adaptive Sports Competitions



This was a busy quarter for recovering service members and staff involved in the Warrior Athlete Reconditioning-Program. In July, we sent 38 Marines and veterans to the city of Chicago to compete in the annual DoD Warrior Games, a Paralympic style competition for wounded, ill, and injured service members and veterans. The Marines competed in archery, cycling, field, sitting volleyball, shooting, track, and wheelchair basketball. This year's event, the first Warrior Games held outside of a military installation, offered professional sports venues and celebrity performances at the opening and closing ceremonies.

September 23- 30, more than 550 athletes from 17 nations competed at the third iteration of the Invictus Games in Toronto. Team U.S. was made up of members from each of the services, including 18 Marines and veterans. The athletes competed in archery, athletics (track and field), cycling, a driving challenge, golf, indoor rowing, power lifting, sitting volleyball, swimming, wheelchair basketball, wheelchair rugby, and a sledge hockey exhibition game. The team received support from First Lady Melania Trump, Prince Harry, former President Barrack Obama, and former Vice President Joseph Biden. Most importantly, their families were there to cheer them on throughout the competition. Next year's event is set to take place in Sydney, Australia, from October 20-27, 2018.



## Events

### This Quarter

- ◆ Warrior Games, Chicago, Ill., June 30- July 8
- ◆ Wounded Warrior Regiment Family Day, Quantico, July 28
- ◆ Modern Day Marine Expo, Quantico, September 19- 21
- ◆ Warrior Care in the 21st Century, Toronto, September 21
- ◆ Invictus Games, Toronto, September 23- 30

### Next Quarter

- ◆ WWR Marine Corps Ball, Arlington, Va., November 10
- ◆ DISC/FSR Training, Wichita, Kan., November 13- 17
- ◆ Warrior Care Month, Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling, November 13- 17
- ◆ Association of Military Surgeons of the United States Annual Meeting, National Harbor, Md., November 28- 1 December

## Always Faithful

When Todd Penn Sr. met Master Sgt. Brian Rivero in May 2016, Penn's son was struggling to find the motivation to function after being diagnosed with brain cancer. Penn knew his son, Lance Cpl. Todd Penn, needed a reminder of the Marine Corps fighting spirit. After receiving the request, Wounded Warrior Regiment connected the local district injured support coordinator (DISC), Rivero, with the Penn family.

DISCs support Marines and families who are recovering away from military bases or transitioning to civilian life, including making house calls. Rivero arrived at Penn's house and met Todd, his family and assessed their needs. Rivero visited Penn each week, reminded him he was still a Marine, and convinced him to keep fighting. Over time and with Rivero's consistent support, Penn started moving around and eventually was able to run again. In Penn Sr.'s words, "what MSgt. Rivero did...was truly amazing." Rivero gave his son a sense of purpose and a reason to live; his son walked tall and proud, as a Marine.

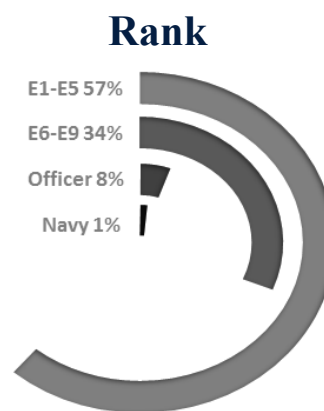
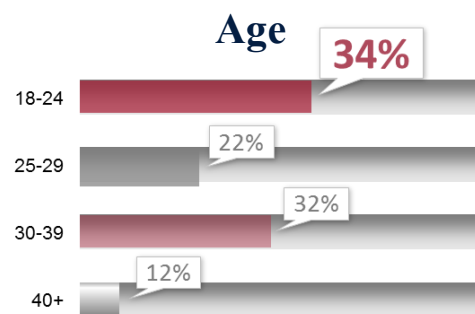
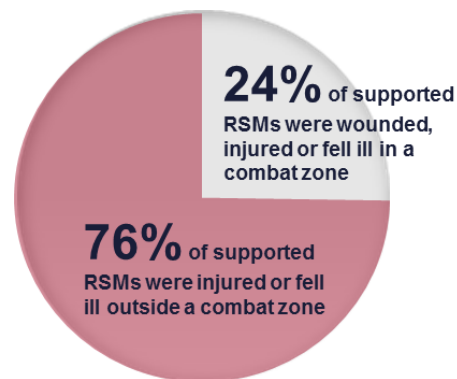
A year after Rivero came into the lives of the Penn family, Penn Jr. died peacefully at home. Penn Sr. described Rivero as a shining example of what it means to serve our country and that his honor, courage, and commitment to their family will never be forgotten. The actions of Master Sgt. Rivero prove Marines are always faithful to their brothers and sisters.



Todd Michael Penn, Jr.  
August 1996 - May 2017

## Population Details

The below information is a snapshot of the RSM population at the end of September and is not a cumulative summary of July—September



### Top Four Medical Issues

Joined/TAD	External
1. Ortho	1. Ortho
2. Mental Health	2. Mental Health
3. TBI	3. Illness
4. PTSD	4. Chronic Pain