



Quarterly Update

January—March 2018

CO's SITREP

Col. Lawrence F. Miller



2018 Marine Corps Ultimate Champion Awarded to Royal Marine Cpl. Jordan Pring.

This adaptive sports event held annually provides an environment for our Marines to train with and compete against each other and international wounded warriors from six countries. These athletes demonstrated impressive athleticism, but more importantly, they bond and build relationships that inspire all of us.

The MCT kicked off what our staff often calls “the Warrior Athlete Reconditioning-Program (WAR-P) season,” marked by major events including the DoD Warrior Games in June and United Kingdom-led Invictus Games in October. As staff members prepare to take our athlete Marines on exciting travel to Colorado and Australia, we remain committed to the spectrum of support we offer each Marine, Sailor and family, on the days full of promise as well as those days that seem hopeless. The remarkable resilience of our recovering service members and the staff members who work tirelessly to develop individualized recovery care plans never wanes. I am proud to be a part of Team Marine Corps.

Semper Fidelis.

Wounded Warrior Regiment (WWR) began 2018 with a renewed passion and intensity for its mission: supporting wounded, ill, and injured (WII) Marines, Sailors, and their families through the phases of recovery, rehabilitation and reintegration.

The first quarter focused on planning and executing the first Marine Corps Trials (MCT) held at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C.

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.

359



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

430



Reserve Medical Entitlements (RMED)

7,638



Wounded Warrior Call Center and Battalion Contact Centers

598



Medical Section

969



Recovery Care Coordinators (RCC)



RCC



969 Total / 193 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 969 Marines and Sailors, including 193 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.

Site Assistance Visit to WWR Battalion

April 18—Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Warrior Care Policy staff members, conducted a site assistance visit to the Wounded Warrior Battalion-West detachment in Palo Alto, Calif. The senior OSD visitor, Navy Commander Toni McRae, commented, "You have an outstanding Recovery Coordination Program; your RCC is amazing and needs to be cloned, and we could not find one deficiency to comment on!" The detachment staff includes recovery care coordinator Debbie Bruton and Staff Sgt. Cori Knight who is the staff non-commissioned officer in charge. Well done to the detachment team, WWBn-West, and Recovery Care Coordination Program team.

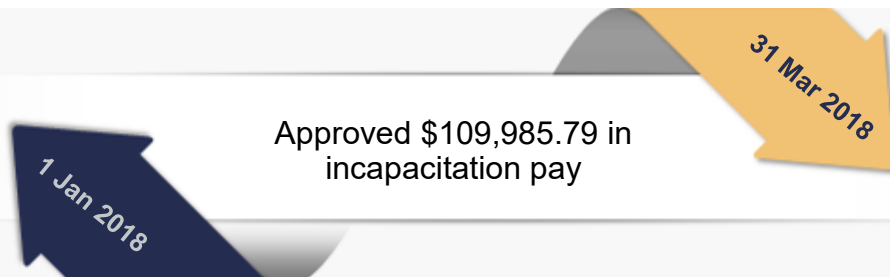


RMED



430 Total / 57 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 430 Marines, including 57 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.



WWR goes to Washington

WWR is home to professionals of many disciplines, not the least of whom are our junior Marines. Their time here is usually spent in cubicles and office spaces, conducting essential support to the wounded, ill, and injured Marines and Sailors who are the focus of operations. At times, our leaders turn the focus to them: this quarter, the enlisted Marines and Sailors of WWR toured the White House, experiencing a day at the heart of our nation's leadership and time to connect as colleagues and fellow service members.





WWCC



7,638 Total 245 New Cases



WWBCC



682 Total 371 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 7,638 Marines, Sailors, and families, including 245 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 682 Marines, Sailors and families, including 371 new cases.** The centers also offer support to commands and receive calls for assistance.



MEDICAL SECTION



598 Total / 543 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 598 Marines, including 543 new cases.**

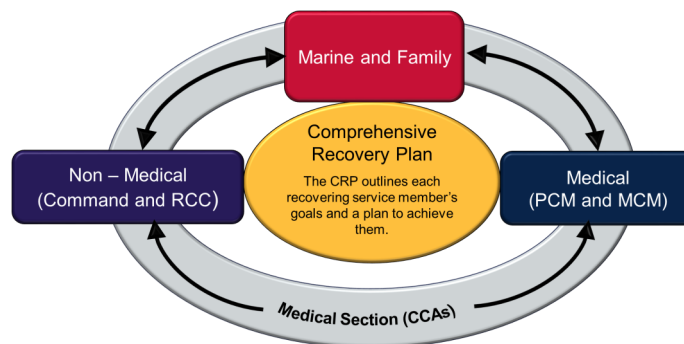
TSGLI—A team effort

One important element of the spectrum of care provided by WWR staff is administering benefits unique to the WII population. Traumatic Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (TSGLI) is a Department of Veterans Affairs operated insurance program administered for the Marine Corps by WWR.

The pay and entitlements section, led by Mr. Terry Herron, a retired Marine CWO4, works closely with applicants to ensure those eligible for benefits receive the assistance they need to complete an application. Too often, the process overwhelms a person who has just experienced a traumatic injury.

Fortunately, WWR represents a complete network of warrior care professionals able to ensure non-medical care coordination with the expertise of clinical advocates who act as a bridge to the medical community. The RCC program, medical section and TSGLI staff consistently collaborate and use a systematic approach to improve efficiency in processing TSGLI for the benefit of severely wounded and injured Marines.

Part of the team—Clinical care advocates act as a link among Marines/families, their commands, and the medical community. Their expertise facilitates many WWR functions, including the efficient processing of applications for benefits.



Did you know?

The Marine Corps relies on the Navy for medical care and medical personnel, such as doctors and corpsman. There are, however, four civilian nurses employed by the Marine Corps, and two of them work for Wounded Warrior Regiment.



359 Total / 118 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 359 Marines, Sailors, and families, including 118 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.

An enduring promise—The most visible highlights of WWR operations tend to be the warrior athlete reconditioning activities, such as the Marine Corps Trials. Behind the scenes, district injured support coordinators (DISCs) are geographically dispersed, working from home offices or VA centers, receiving phone calls every hour of the day and night—and these individuals are making a quiet and critical difference in the lives of veterans. Here are a few highlights from this quarter:



Gunnery Sgt. Kyle Bonnstetter Omaha, Ne.

Recently assisted a double amputee whose family was moving to Jacksonville, N.C. due to an appointment for his new exoskeleton fitting at the VA hospital, the Marine could not travel with his family. Bonnstetter organized a crew of volunteers to meet the Marine’s wife and unpack the moving truck at their new residence.

Master Sgt. Scott Mahnke Livonia, N.Y.

After contacting a Marine veteran a year ago, Mahnke helped him change his life: “MSgt Mahnke was always available whenever I reached out to him. I had my highs and lows but he was always a voice of encouragement, motivation and help...I appreciate it and will keep in touch. I will never forget the hard work you put in to a person you've never physically even met and I hope to pay it forward to the next Marine...”

Gunnery Sgt. Robert Philios New York, N.Y.

Worked with a medically retired Marine for several months to obtain a release of information form so that he could assist in completing a Combat Related Special Compensation application. Once the application was completed and the retired Marine signed the form, Philios submitted it. Within roughly seventy-two hours, the application was submitted to and processed by the board, which approved the benefit for the Marine.

Events

- This Quarter**
- ◆ Marine Corps Trials, Camp Lejeune, N.C., 17 – 24 March
 - ◆ Heroes Among Us Event, Quantico, VA, 24 February

- Next Quarter**
- ◆ DoD Warrior Games, U.S. Air Force Academy, 1-9 June
 - ◆ Section leader training, WWBn-W, 30 April - 4 May
 - ◆ Section leader training, WWBn-E, 7-11 May
 - ◆ Department of Navy Hiring Event, Washington, D.C., 7-9 May

Marine Corps Trials



The 8th annual Marine Corps Trials, a Paralympic-style adaptive sports event hosted by the Marine Corps Wounded Warrior Regiment, was held for the first time at Camp Lejeune, N.C., March 15-24.

The Marine Corps Trials involved more than 200 wounded, ill or Injured Marines, Sailors, veterans and international competitors from Australia, Colombia, France, Georgia, Germany and the United Kingdom.



Finding Camaraderie through Sports

The Marine Corps Trials develops camaraderie among recovering service members and veterans by creating the opportunity to connect with each other through sports—facing new challenges together. The Trials provides a chance to showcase participant achievements and the importance of adaptive sports to a greater population. To replay highlights from this year's trials visit: <https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/MCWWR>.

2018 DoD Warrior Games

The Department of Defense Warrior Games will be held at the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo., 1-9 June. Team Marine Corps consists of 40 active duty and veteran Marines training to compete in sports ranging from track and field to seated volleyball. The Warrior Games were established in 2010 as a way to enhance the recovery and rehabilitation of wounded, ill and injured service members. Visit www.facebook.com/wwr.usmc for the Team Marine Corps athlete roster announcement and <https://dodwariorgames.com/> to learn more about the games.



Coaching Beyond the Sport

Coaching for Team Marine Corps at the 2018 Warrior Games is Michael Kleinert, Wounded Warrior Battalion—West (WWBn-W) Warrior Athlete Reconditioning—Program head swim coach. Kleinert has been working with wounded warriors at WWBn-W for the last six years and coached three wounded warriors to 24 Paralympic American records between 2015 and 2017.

Kleinert holds several degrees and certifications, including a Master of Science in Traditional Oriental Medicine and an American Swim Coaches Association Level 5 Disability Certification.

He approaches coaching with a perspective larger than just the sport, "The greatest championship that a team can win, is having the courage and strength to overcome life's most difficult challenges. Becoming a fast swimmer is great; becoming a fast swimmer who is a great person, is better."