



CAPT Margaret A. Riggs, USPHS (Ret) PhD, MPH, MS

Board Position: Retired Officer Representative

CAPT Riggs retired in 2022 after a 17-year career in the USPHS and 5 years in the US Army. She serves as the Retired Officer Representative on the COA Board of Directors and is the current Chair of the Retired Officer Committee. CAPT Riggs is an Associate Professor at the University of Kentucky College of Public Health teaching Environmental Health, Applied Epidemiology and Global Health.

As a Scientist Officer with USPHS, she served at: CDC working in domestic and international public health capacity building; Healthy Communities Director for Shaping Our Appalachian Region (SOAR), a regional nonprofit that champions regional programs and advocacy in Eastern Kentucky to coordinate health improvement across rural Appalachia; Associate Director for CDC Zambia to help establish the Zambia National Public Health Institute; CDC Career Epidemiology Field Officer (CEFO) Supervisor overseeing 30 CDC field assignees stationed around the US; and a CEFO assigned to the Kentucky Department for Public Health responding to natural disasters and outbreaks. CAPT Riggs began her career at CDC as an Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer at the NIOSH in Cincinnati, OH.

CAPT Riggs' awards include the USPHS Distinguished Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, US Embassy Meritorious Service Award, and Franklin Award.

CAPT Riggs and her husband, Jeff McDonald, live in Eastern Kentucky with their two dogs and two cats. They enjoy traveling internationally and compete in dog sports around the US.