



**CDR Tracy Powell, PhD**  
**Board Position: Scientist**

CDR Powell currently serves as a Senior Advisor at CDC, in the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCIRD). She serves among the highest leaders within CDC and has been sought by CDC leadership for critical, high-visibility positions such as an appointed to serve as a SME for Health Equity, Enterprise Risk Manager, Deputy Brand Chief for the Field Services Branch, and served on nine deployments during the COVID-19 Response.

Prior to joining NCIRD, CDR Powell served as the Chief of the Financial Assessment and Audit Resolution Unit, at CDC in the Office of Financial Resources from 2015-2020. CDR Powell led efforts to conduct financial capacity and sustainability assessments throughout the United States and Territories and across 90 different countries.

From 2008 to 2015, CDR Powell served in the Office of the Surgeon General as the Senior Advisor to VADM Regina M. Benjamin, while simultaneously serving as a Senior Policy Analyst in the Division for Commissioned Corps Personnel and Readiness (DCCPR).

CDR Powell has been involved with COA for over 14 years in different capacities, which includes serving as the Junior Officer Representative to the COA Board of Directors and contributor to the 2013-2015 Strategic Plan, serving on the COA Legislative Affairs Committee (2015-2021), Co-lead the Training Day (formally Pre-Conference) (2023-Present) and heavily engaged in Category Day (2012-Present) as speaker, onsite coordinator, and moderator.

## **Position Statement**

**CDR Tracy Powell, MPH, REHS**

**Board Position: Scientist (Applicant for 2024-2027)**

### **How you contribute or plan to contribute to COA (whether local or nationally)**

I am CDR Tracy R. Powell, a scientist officer in the United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps, with over 15 years of Active-Duty Service. I am stationed at Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the National Center for Immunization and Respiratory Diseases (NCRID), where I serve as a Senior Advisor. I have been a member of and actively involved with Commissioned Officers Association (COA) and/or Commissioned Officer Foundation (COF) for over 14 years. Throughout my entire career, my COA involvement has been at the national level serving in the following roles to support and advance the mission for the COA and its membership.

- Co-Lead (2024) and Lead (2023) for the Training Day, formally known as the Pre-Conference for the Annual USPHS Scientific and Training Symposium developed an agenda for Training Day that reflects the interest and needs of members, provided oversight of the abstract review and approval process, ensured efficient execution of trainings, activities, and sessions during the Symposium, by attending annually. Consistently, increased awareness and interest in the Training Day, by identifying relevant topics and encouraging officers to submit engaging and relevant abstracts.
- Co-Led 2018 Symposium Silent Auction, lead efforts to collect 100+ items auctioned, \$2000+ raised to support COA Atlanta programs and activities.

- Served on the Legislative Committee (2015-2021) ensured COA is abreast of members concerns and needs, while also making sure members were aware of and could access all entitlements and benefits. Created opportunities to share Legislative Committee updates with members and encouraged them to become members and get involved.
- COA Strategic Planning Committee (2013-2015), contributed to 2015-2019 Strategic Plan, represented Junior Officers, encouraged inclusion, and ensured that their thoughts, needs, and concerns were taking into consideration and reflected in the strategic plan.

Moving forward, I plan recruit member to grow COA, serve on various committees such as the Legislative Affairs Committee and the Local Branches Committee to ensure the 2021-2026 Strategic Plan goals are met, and assist COA on advocating for members through phone calls and letter writing.

**Describe why you think your experience and expertise will benefit the COA Board of Directors and COA members.**

Being involved with COA for over 14 years in different capacities, I have had the opportunity to see COA and its development from multiple lenses. Being a Junior Officer Representative to the COA Board of Directors and contributor to the 2013-2015 Strategic Plan, increased my awareness of the intent and compassion COA has for its members and their families, which led to my continued involvement and membership. While at USPHS Commissioned Corps Headquarters (2008-2015) as a Policy Analyst in the Former OCCFM now CCHQ Policy Team, I contributed firsthand to Commissioned Corps policies and the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and serving as USPHS representative on the DoD's Military Assignment Pay Committee (2014-2015), which increased my awareness for the importance of organization like COA to be advocates for PHS, when we are politically unable to advocate for ourselves. These experiences led to my involvement and continued interest in the COA Legislative Affairs

Committee, where I served as an active member from 2015-2021. Laterally, serving as a Senior Advisor to VADM Regina M. Benjamin, allowed me the opportunity to observe and be engaged with the COA Directors at a higher level as they ensured members and being heard, and entitlements are consistent with our sister services: Parity is Key. Lastly, my involvement on the COF symposium planning committee (2023-Present) and Category Day (2012-Present) allowed me the opportunity to assist with creating the annual agenda for the symposium, which allows officers to be informed and engaged.

These experiences, my knowledge, exposures, and growth along the way, will position me to be a well-rounded, knowledgeable, experienced, and engaging member of the COA Board of Directors, as we empower COA members through growth, service, and advocacy.