Upcoming Events

**April 2019**

Limb Loss Awareness Month

Minority Health Month

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

World Autism Awareness Day
April 2

Equal Pay Day
April 10

DIVAC Quarterly Meeting
April 17

**Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day**
April 26

**Federal Inter-Agency Holocaust Remembrance Program**
April 30, 11:30am-1pm
Lincoln Theatre, Washington, DC

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**ORM**

Steps Toward Conflict Resolution

Callers can REACH to the Office of Resolution Management (ORM) using the new number, 1-888-566-3982 (TDD: 1-888-626-9008), and speak with a specialist regarding Equal Employment Opportunity Complaint Processing, Alternative Dispute Resolution, and the Harassment Prevention Program. REACH to ORM is available from 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. in all time zones. To file a discrimination or harassment complaint, you must contact ORM within 45 calendar days of the date of the alleged discriminatory incident.

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**Commemorate**

**Federal Inter-Agency Holocaust Remembrance Program**

Coinciding with Holocaust Remembrance Day, the Federal Inter-Agency Committee will hold the Annual Holocaust Remembrance Program on Tuesday, April 30, 2019, at the Lincoln Theatre located at 1215 U Street NW in Washington, D.C. from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. The theme for this year’s program is “Perilous Passages: Two Journeys to Survival” and features the stories of Holocaust survivors Dr. Hans Fisher and Judge Thomas Buergenthal. **Continued on page 4.**
ODI Recognizes Virtual VA IT Campus for Exemplary Service
Partnership Results in Diversity and Inclusion Training for All VA Employees

IT Workforce Development (ITWD) and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion (ODI) collaborated to deliver competency-based diversity and inclusion training for OIT employees. The trainings were developed around important diversity and inclusion topics like enhancing workforce diversity and workplace inclusion, combatting incivility in the workplace, managing generational differences in VA, and more.

Delivered in ITWD’s Virtual VA IT Campus, the trainings generated robust, leaner-centered, cost-efficient applications of technology in a virtual environment. The diversity and inclusion training was delivered in a live format, which allowed participants to ask questions in real-time, directly to ODI experts.

All sessions are available on-demand in the Virtual VA IT Campus. To view them, visit https://www.vaitcampus.com and search the “on-demand” section. The following courses are also available on the Talent Management System (https://auth-hcm03.ns2cloud.com/SecureAuth35) to all VA employees:

• Enhancing Workforce Diversity & Workplace Inclusion in OI&T (VA 4221993)
• Managing Implicit Bias in VA (VA 4222000)
• Applying Cultural Competence in a Multicultural VA (VA 4221996)
• Introduction to Combatting Incivility in the Workplace (VA 4221998)
• Managing Generational Difference in the VA (4448047)

When asked about the success of the partnership, Mr. Harvey Johnson, Deputy Assistant Secretary, Office of Resolution Management and Acting Executive Director, ODI, said, “ITWD’s commitment and dedication enhanced ODI’s capability and capacity to prepare our staff to carry out culturally competent engagements with our Nation’s Veterans. ITWD’s contributions and support to Diversity and Inclusion are greatly appreciated!”

For more information about this collaborative effort, and to learn more about the Virtual VA IT Campus, contact ITWD at VAITWD@ITWD.gov.

Pictured below: ITWD Virtual VA IT Campus Falling Waters, West Virginia, (left) and Washington, DC staff (right) accepting the award from ODI representatives, Mr. Johnson and Mr. Lester Stephens.


Washington, DC ITWD (from left to right): Harvey Johnson, Andy MacNeish (back), Carl Fulmar, Ai Chen, William Vargas, Adisa Hargett-Robinson, Crystal Bart-Williams, Shaw n Leister-Frazier, James McGrath, Dr. Alesha Johnson, Dr. Jim Trinka, Missy Stokes, and Lester Stephens.
VA Recognizes Its Workforce Is Its Most Valuable Asset

During Public Service Recognition Week, VA celebrates and honors its public servants for their contributions to the Department. Dedicated and outstanding employees across the country make a difference every day by fulfilling VA’s mission of caring for our nation’s Veterans and their families.

VA THANKS EVERY ONE OF ITS VALUED EMPLOYEES FOR ALL THEY DO ON BEHALF OF OUR NATION’S VETERANS.
Commemorating Dr. Fisher on the ill-fated refugee ship St. Louis, which fled Nazi Germany only to be forced back to Europe after Cuba and the U.S. denied it entry. Judge Buergenthal is one of the youngest survivors of the Auschwitz and Sachsenhausen concentration camps, including a death march from Auschwitz. The program, which is free of charge, will be moderated by Scott Miller, Director of Curatorial Affairs (retired), U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum.


Thank You for Your Service!
Celebrate Public Service Recognition Week with VA

From May 5 to 11, VA will participate in Public Service Recognition Week (PSRW). PSRW is an annual celebration held the first full week of May to honor the country’s federal, state, county and local government employees for their contributions to public service.

VA will celebrate PSRW by acknowledging all employees in the organization for their dedication to serving Veterans and their families. VA recognizes its greatest strength lies in its workforce—the men and women of VA exemplifying the Core Values of Integrity, Commitment, Advocacy, Respect and Excellence. The Department appreciates the high-performing, dedicated employees, who work hard every day to deliver excellent customer service to improve the Veteran experience.

The Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) has, once again, graciously offered to sponsor a VA Wide PSRW Cake Cutting Ceremony on Thursday, May 9, 2019. During the week-long celebration, VA leaders plan to meet and greet employees, distribute I CARE certificates, do a little physical activity, eat a bit of cake and show our Civil Servant Pride! PSRW events will be held at VA facilities around the country, as well as national PSRW events in Washington, DC.

For details regarding PSRW activities and events, please contact your regional VA public affairs offices, who will have information on national events as well as VA-sponsored activities. Additional information on the history and national celebration of PSRW is available at the Public Service Recognition Week website: [https://psrw.ourpublicservice.org](https://psrw.ourpublicservice.org).

The committed work that VA employees do every day is the foundation of VA and is what makes the organization’s mission possible. VA thanks you for your service!

For questions, please contact Edith Perry, ODI, at Edith.Perry@va.gov.

Trailblazers: Women Breaking Barriers
Documentary Now Available Online

On Wednesday, March 6, 2019, the Center for Women Veterans (CWV) celebrated the accomplishments of 16 women Veterans selected from across the Nation for blazing a trail for others to follow and who continue to give back to their communities with a ceremony at the Women in Military Service for America Memorial. The following day, also as part of CWV’s 2019 Women Veteran Trailblazer Initiative, the Department recognized these phenomenal women with VA Central Office ceremony and viewing of a documentary featuring these amazing women. That documentary is now available online from the CWV website at [https://www.va.gov/womenvet](https://www.va.gov/womenvet). For more information about Women’s History Month, contact Ms. Sehar Minhas, VA’s National Federal Women’s Program Manager, at (202) 461-4036 or Sehar.Minhas@va.gov. For more information on VA’s Federal Women’s Program, visit the ODI Web page at [https://www.diversity.va.gov/programs/women.aspx](https://www.diversity.va.gov/programs/women.aspx).