By Stephanie McCrobie
Lovell FHCC Public Affairs

There’s a reason you see Sailors smiling as they leave Building 152. A crew of fifteen men and women, including three civilians, are hard at work as dental assistants and lab technicians, to keep Sailors’ mouths in tip-top shape.

Building 152 is the Prosthodontic Dental Lab on the East campus. Active duty Sailors visit the Dental Lab for dental prosthetics, such as crowns, bridges and implants. The lab even supplies Sailors with night guards, bleaching trays and sleep apnea devices to keep them healthy.

The team creates more than 400 prosthetics a month for eligible beneficiaries at Naval Station Great Lakes, Recruit Training Command and FHCC Sailors, said Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (HM1) Nathan Ko.

During a recent visit, team members were happy to talk about the great work they do, why they chose to work in this field, and the cohesiveness of their team.

Hospital Corpsman 3rd Class José Cruz, a lab technician, said that he started working as a dental assistant, which is how most of the lab techs started in the field. HM3 Cruz learned how to work with patients before he transitioned to working in the lab, making prosthetics for the Sailors.

The team said it can take up to two weeks to work on a prosthetic crown or bridge. They take their time to make sure they produce quality prosthetics using the latest technology.

HM3 Cruz said the lab techs work closely with the dentists on each individual case to make sure the patients receive the best fit and care. “We know we did a good job when we don’t hear back from the dentists,” he said.

HM2 Richard McDaniel said he enjoys his job as a lab tech. “You get to work at your own pace, be your own boss and create quality work,” McDaniel said.

HM3 Cruz added all the team members are happy to know they are “helping fulfill the Navy mission by making sure every Sailor is prepared.”

But, as HM3 Daryl Wenzel added, the challenges do not affect the team’s work products or morale.

“This is the best team. We all get along, and we all like what we do. And we are all good at what we do,” Wenzel said.

The Sailors appreciate the skills they have learned working as lab techs and dental assistants.

Continued on page 3
The teamwork required was immense, and this led to the creation of a new follow-up mental health program. The team was successful in recruiting employees who could work through the challenges of cross-country travel, to the coaches and caregivers who chatted with them along and offered support, and the famous many volunteers. These efforts were such as the Faith Lutheran Church bake sale and the Legion Post 42 pasta dinner fundraiser, as well as the來telephone calls. In one particular case, a team member was going to wake up behind the scenes, the Legends team wasn’t able to be competitive.

Additionally, there were many teams here to help with all the things you need for your personal and your fellow employees. At Lovell FHCC, we do not make the phrase “One Team. Many Places. We exemplify and live by it every day as we continue on our mission of Reaching Warriors and Caring for Heroes.

The Apollo

A 2012 Lovell FHCC LifeWIRE case study conducted by Rincoldi, Psychology Intern Peter Dett, and FHCC Mental Health Department Head Dr. Chowdary Jampola, found that a system is strongly positive for the high-risk, high-recovery Veterans who agreed to participate.

LifeWIRE also proved to be a valuable tool for the suicide prevention community due to its accurate chart and streamline workflows. According to the study, the patient’s chart was the technology received immediate responses from the staff, before they were overwhelmed by stressful events. Even patients who were on high alert, could still be reached over the telephone calls responded to text messages with positive feedback checks-in, according to Rincoldi.

The doctors reported that after the study ended, many participants commented on the motivational messages, including Bible passages, were encouraging. Most participants said they didn’t want the program to end, and that it should be available to more people.

One patient, Charles Brennan, highly recommended it to Veterans with depression and thought of “fishing for help” thoughts. He said, “It gave me inspirational thoughts three or four times a day,” Brennan stated. “It made me feel that I was not being depressed.”

LifeWIRE has been validated by Food and Rincoldi said. “New technology – such as test messaging – makes this form of ‘stay-in-contact’ suicide prevention highly valuable without a large expense.”

With this knowledge in hand, the behavioral health department at Lovell FHCC this summer launched a new follow-up mental health program called LifeWIRE.

In July, the first group of mental health outpatients began using LifeWIRE, a platform for patient communication that checks in on individual patients via text messages and phone calls. A personalized program can send motivational messages or ask for a response that the rate of mental health patients on a scale of 1 to 5. Certain responses then alert mental health providers and counselors to reach out to patients to provide additional support.

The teamwork required was immense, and this led to the creation of a new follow-up mental health program. The team was successful in recruiting employees who could work through the challenges of cross-country travel, to the coaches and caregivers who chatted with them along and offered support, and the famous many volunteers. These efforts were such as the Faith Lutheran Church bake sale and the Legion Post 42 pasta dinner fundraiser, as well as the 来telephone calls. In one particular case, a team member was going to wake up behind the scenes, the Legends team wasn’t able to be competitive.

Additionally, there were many teams here to help with all the things you need for your personal and your fellow employees. At Lovell FHCC, we do not make the phrase “One Team. Many Places. We exemplify and live by it every day as we continue on our mission of Reaching Warriors and Caring for Heroes.

The Apollo

A 2012 Lovell FHCC LifeWIRE case study conducted by Rincoldi, Psychology Intern Peter Dett, and FHCC Mental Health Department Head Dr. Chowdary Jampola, found that a system is strongly positive for the high-risk, high-recovery Veterans who agreed to participate.

LifeWIRE also proved to be a valuable tool for the suicide prevention community due to its accurate chart and streamline workflows. According to the study, the patient’s chart was the technology received immediate responses from the staff, before they were overwhelmed by stressful events. Even patients who were on high alert, could still be reached over the telephone calls responded to text messages with positive feedback checks-in, according to Rincoldi.

The doctors reported that after the study ended, many participants commented on the motivational messages, including Bible passages, were encouraging. Most participants said they didn’t want the program to end, and that it should be available to more people.

One patient, Charles Brennan, highly recommended it to Veterans with depression and thought of “fishing for help” thoughts. He said, “It gave me inspirational thoughts three or four times a day,” Brennan stated. “It made me feel that I was not being depressed.”

LifeWIRE has been validated by Food and Rincoldi said. “New technology – such as test messaging – makes this form of ‘stay-in-contact’ suicide prevention highly valuable without a large expense.”

With this knowledge in hand, the behavioral health department at Lovell FHCC this summer launched a new follow-up mental health program called LifeWIRE.

In July, the first group of mental health outpatients began using LifeWIRE, a platform for patient communication that checks in on individual patients via text messages and phone calls. A personalized program can send motivational messages or ask for a response that the rate of mental health patients on a scale of 1 to 5. Certain responses then alert mental health providers and counselors to reach out to patients to provide additional support.
Lovell Legends compete in National Wheelchair Games

By William Barshop
Lovell FHCC Public Affairs

Lovell Legends athletes brought home the gold – and silver and bronze – from the recent annual National Veterans Wheelchair Games in Tampa, Florida.

The eight-member team won nine gold medals, three silver, one bronze and returned with good memories to last a lifetime.

Karen Fleming, one of the coaches from Lovell FHCC and a recreation therapist, said the games allow Veterans to gain strength from each other.

“The older Veterans are really encouraging to people with recent injuries,” Fleming said. “And the newer generation, people with recent injuries, they kind of rekindle a spark in the older guys. They get a real kick out of it.”

Dan Dorsch, a Lovell Legends team member with multiple sclerosis, won two gold medals in swimming and track events, and a bronze in the javelin throw. He said he always looks forward to the annual trip. “You meet people from around the country with similar illnesses,” Dorsch said.

Aoyagi won gold in table tennis and nine-ball, and silver in bowling; Watson won silver in motor rally; Wells won bronze in basketball; Van Benschoten won four gold medals in table tennis, nine-ball, slalom and motor rally; and Calderon won a gold in weightlifting.

The competitors come from the United States, Great Britain and Puerto Rico. The event is the world’s largest annual multi-sport wheelchair event for military Veterans who use wheelchairs for sports competition due to spinal cord injuries, amputations or neurological problems. The Games feature 18 different medal-awarding events and two exhibition events with athletes competing against their peers according to wheelchair sports experience and agility. The Games are presented by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Paralyzed Veterans of America.

Lovell FHCC All Hazards Team trains to care for patients in emergencies

By Veronica Watkins
Lovell FHCC All Hazards Team Decon Coordinator

Do you have what it takes to help Lovell FHCC respond to an emergency? The Lovell FHCC All Hazards Team is looking for employees to volunteer to respond and care for patients and staff in a variety of emergency situations.

New volunteers will join an elite team that trains to react quickly and implement the Hospital Incident Command System.

Lovell FHCC’s All Hazards team was deemed “mission ready” after it successfully completed a Navy Bureau of Medicine-sponsored Medical First Receiver, Operations Training (FROT) event in the spring. The event was aimed at mastering lifesaving skills required to triage, initiate field treatment, decontaminate and save victims from Chemical, Biological, Radiological/Nuclear (CBRN) and other hazardous materials.

The hands-on initiative prepared the team in the event of a CBRN attack or accident occurred in the surrounding area. The team earned a “mission ready” status after the decontamination tent was set up and fully functional – and six team members were suited up and ready to receive patients – within 13 minutes, which was well under the 20-minute target.

After the exercise, students said they, “felt ready to handle a real world incident.”

The team, however, is currently understaffed and is actively looking for driven individuals who are motivated by core values centered on providing the best possible care to patients in emergency situations.

The All Hazards mission is not limited to decontamination. The team also is involved in mass casualty exercises, search and rescue, and labor pool functions, just to name a few missions. Training exercises engage the team in the Hospital Incident Command system and foster a spirit of preparedness for the facility.

If you are interested in becoming part of the team, please e-mail veronica.watkins2@va.gov or Doug McDaniels at douglas.mcdaniel@va.gov to get information on the next training event.