

Navy Medicine Launches Dallas Navy Week

Story Number: NNS110411-17

04/11/11

By Valerie A. Kremer, Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs

DALLAS (NNS) -- Navy Medicine leadership met with local health care providers, corporate executives, civic groups, and community leaders to discuss shared medical initiatives and Navy Medicine's role in the maritime strategy, as part of Dallas Navy Week 2011, Apr. 5-8.

Rear Adm. Richard C. Vinci, deputy chief, logistics and installations, Navy Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, was the senior medical officer representing Navy Medicine during Dallas Navy Week.

"We are here to thank the citizens of the Dallas/Ft. Worth area for the great job they are doing in taking care of our armed forces," said Vinci. "It is also a great opportunity to show how we are taking care of the men and women in the Navy and those who will join the service, and demonstrate how we are good stewards of the government's money."

Of nearly 330,000 active duty Sailors across the Navy, 41,000 come from the state of Texas. An additional 36,000 Sailors assigned to the Navy Reserve also hail from the state, Vinci noted.

During a meeting with leadership and staff from Susan G. Komen for the Cure, Vinci shared Navy Medicine's critical role in the chief of naval operation's maritime strategy.

"Navy Medicine plays a vital role in supporting the five 'hard power' capabilities of the maritime strategy: forward presence, deterrence, sea control, power projection, and maritime security; because no ship, submarine, or aircraft and other Navy assets deploys without the support of Navy Medicine," said Vinci. "Navy Medicine displays 'soft power' through its most visible role in humanitarian assistance/disaster relief (HA/DR) missions."

Vinci shared Navy Medicine's critical research and development piece through all six components of the maritime strategy.

"Before the USNS Comfort (T-AH 20) went to Haiti after a massive earthquake struck its capital, research and development went into every

facet of creating and testing those supplies, medical capabilities, and logistics before the ship left her port in Baltimore, Md.," said Vinci.

The 2010 HA/DR mission to Haiti is also an example of smart power, according to Vinci.

"Smart power is providing humanitarian assistance and disaster relief alongside our international partners to help bring stability and hope to those in need to the benefit of the global community," said Vinci. "Navy Medicine is often a cornerstone of these important missions."

Vinci also met with emergency medical and rescue staff at the Dallas Fire Department to discuss trauma care, lifesaving techniques, procedures currently used on the battlefield in Afghanistan, and advancements in Navy Medicine research and development.

"Through medical research and development, we have made great strides in innovative ways to treat wounded service members in theater," said Vinci. "A one-handed, self-applied tourniquet and a one-handed cricothyrotomy kit, which allows quick and safe access for breathing when there is a blockage in the throat, are just two ways that are making a difference in saving lives of our Sailors and Marines whereas many would have been lost in the past."

Other Navy Medicine engagements during Dallas Navy Week included speaking with the Dallas Cowboys head trainer and emergency medical support (EMS) stadium staff; visits to the Baylor School of Nursing, Susan G. Komen for the Cure, and the Veterans Affairs North Texas Healthcare System; receiving mayoral proclamations from the mayors of Dallas and Ft. Worth; and speaking with students from the University of North Texas Health Science Center, among others.

Dallas Navy Week is one of 21 Navy weeks across the country this year. Navy Weeks are designed to show Americans the investment they make in their Navy and increase awareness in cities that do not have a significant Navy presence. Dallas Navy Week events continue until Apr. 15.

For more information about Dallas Navy Week, visit <http://www.navyweek.org/dallas2011/>.

For more news from Navy Medicine, visit www.navy.mil/local/mednews/.