



Biodefense solutions to protect our nation

FOR RELEASE:
Tuesday, October 15, 2013
Fort Detrick, Maryland

CONTACT: Caree Vander Linden
(301) 619-2285
Caree.VanderLinden@us.army.mil

USAMRIID Deputy Commander to Receive 2013 Trailblazer Award at MD Women's Conference

COL Andrea M. Stahl, deputy commander of the U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), is the recipient of the 2013 Trailblazer Award sponsored by the Frederick County Commission for Women (FCCFW). She will be honored at the fifth annual Maryland Women's Conference on Saturday, Oct. 26, at the Holiday Inn and Conference Center in Frederick, Md.

"This is the first time we've presented this award to a member of the military," said Linda Roth, FCCFW president. "In addition to being a successful Army officer, COL Stahl handles the responsibilities of any working woman with a family. She is an inspiration to our young people who may be considering a professional career in the military services."

According to her official biography, COL Stahl joined the U.S. Army at 22 as a Second Lieutenant. Shortly thereafter, she was posted to Germany and spent over two years with the 42nd Medical Company, 30th Medical Group. Upon returning to the U.S., she worked for two years as a medical assistant at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center. This was followed by a four-year period during which she pursued and received a Ph.D. in physiology at Yale University as part of an Army scholarship program.

After receiving her Ph.D., COL Stahl worked as a Clinical Research Assistant at Walter Reed for three years and then returned to Germany for four years, where she was the Chief Officer overseeing several areas of the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center clinical laboratory. In 2004, she was posted to USAMRIID, the Army's medical biodefense laboratory at Fort Detrick, Md. She served there as a Principal Investigator for one year and then became the Division Chief of the Toxicology Division.

In 2009, she became the first female Commander of the U. S. Army Center for Environmental Health Research at Fort Detrick. Upon promotion to Colonel, she became the first female Deputy Commander of USAMRIID, a subordinate laboratory of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command. In this position, COL Stahl manages the Institute's operating budget and its workforce of over 800 military, civilian, and contract personnel, directing research that leads to medical solutions to some of the world's most lethal diseases.

COL Stahl is the recipient of numerous military awards and decorations, to include the Army Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Meritorious Unit Award. She has received The Surgeon General's "A" professional proficiency designator, and has been inducted into the Army Medical Department's Order of Military Medical Merit. She is married to Army COL Sidney R. Hinds II, M.D., and has three children.

“COL Stahl is an example of how far a woman can go today in achieving a respected, meaningful career while balancing the obligations of family,” said USAMRIID’s Theresa Smith, who nominated COL Stahl for the award. “She truly has been a trailblazer for women officers in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps.”

FCCFW is a non-partisan organization that advises Frederick County government on issues affecting women and families, according to Roth. Each year, the group also sponsors the Maryland Women’s Conference and selects one person to be recognized as a “trailblazer” for women in the area. The theme of this year’s conference is “Jobs, Health, Money: Helping Women Have It All!”

USAMRIID’s mission is to protect the warfighter from biological threats and to be prepared to investigate disease outbreaks or threats to public health. Research conducted at USAMRIID leads to medical solutions—vaccines, drugs, diagnostics, and information—that benefit both military personnel and civilians. The Institute plays a key role as the lead military medical research laboratory for the Defense Threat Reduction Agency’s Joint Science and Technology Office for Chemical and Biological Defense. USAMRIID is a subordinate laboratory of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command.

###

Links to additional information:

Maryland Women’s Conference: www.mdwomensconference.org

Frederick County Commission for Women: <http://www.frederickcountymd.gov/index.aspx?nid=1520>

U.S. Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases: www.usamriid.army.mil