

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

**CHIEF OF ENGINEERS 2600 ARMY PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC 20310-2600** 

DAEN-ZA

24 SEP 2020

## COMMANDING GENERAL'S POLICY MEMORANDUM #7

SUBJECT: Health Promotion, Risk Reduction, and Suicide Prevention

- 1. Every Soldier, Civilian and Family member is a valued member of the USACE team. Leaders and personnel at all levels should take steps to promote healthy lifestyles, reduce risk-seeking behavior, and encourage people to seek help to reduce stress and prevent suicides.
- 2. I encourage every member of USACE to seek assistance from behavioral health professionals or peer support groups when appropriate. You are never alone, no matter where or at what level you work within any USACE organization. It is also important that everyone make informed health and risk reduction decisions.
- 3. All Commanders, Leaders, Supervisors, Soldiers, and Civilians are responsible for creating an environment that reduces stigma and encourages people to seek help when they need it. I expect Leaders to exercise extraordinary discretion when sharing information regarding Soldiers and Civilians seeking help. Be careful not to let your eagerness to help with resources turn into a deterrent.
- 4. Any life lost to suicide is one too many. Suicide prevention starts with people that care about themselves, and more importantly, about each other. Every USACE member plays a critical personal role in preventing suicides. Annual training provides the vehicle to reinforce the Army's Ask, Care, Escort (ACE) Suicide Intervention Program principles within the USACE community.
- 5. Commanders and Directors will publish information for local resources available to all personnel, including the Critical Incident Stress Management team, Command Surgeon, Command Chaplain, Employee Assistance Program, and Army online suicide prevention tools.

SCOTT A. SPELLMON Lieutenant General, USA

**Chief of Engineers**