



# September Newsletter

## INDIANAPOLIS CHAPTER



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### President's Message

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Indianapolis AGA Chapter Members,

Greetings! As I prepare this note to you, I look back in awe at the tremendous dedication your chapter leadership has previously put into - and continues to put into - ensuring Your Chapter provides you and our community with the benefits the AGA is so honored to be able to provide. I got to see that mainly as an observer last program year and now first-hand this program year. One of my first actions on behalf of Your Chapter was to accept the Platinum status award at the National PDT this past July. I was extremely proud to receive on your behalf such a prestigious award - thank you for your tremendous support last year!



Heading into this program year, I decided to "stay the course" and mirror last year's goals, which are: 1. Perform value-added community service; 2. Increase membership; 3. Increase event participation; and 4. Maintain Platinum status. The order of these goals is no mistake. One of the things I admire most about AGA and Your Chapter is the significant focus on helping the friends, families, coworkers and neighbors in our community; which is why community service is first. As you well know, it is not an easy task, however, which is why I am looking to grow our member base so we can have even greater impact to our community.

I am also mindful you need to feel Your Chapter also cares about you and that the events are aligned to what you value in your personal and professional life so we will focus in this are quite heavily in the coming months. Lastly, and it's last on purpose, is that we want to maintain the

Platinum status award not so much as a target, as it is a demonstration of the effort and significant positive impact Your Chapter has on so many in our community.

To ensure we align what you want Your Chapter to stand for and support to those things that you are willing and able to stand behind, we will be sending out a member survey shortly. It should only take a few minutes to fill out but will provide us with immeasurable feedback so that we can make positive improvements and changes to Your Chapter. Your Chapter leadership has already shared several new and exciting ideas, as well as some of the more "tried-and-true" events and ideas, and we would tremendously appreciate validation or correction of where we are thinking of taking Your Chapter.

And, as always, I and all Your Chapter leadership are just a phone call or email away should you have any ideas, thoughts and suggestions, or should you be looking for a way to get more actively involved.

Here's to a successful 2017-2018 Program Year!

**Shawn McCracken**  
**President**  
**Indianapolis AGA Chapter**



## Newsletter News

Greetings from your Newsletter Crew! Below is the publication date for the next edition of the AGA Newsletter. If you have article ideas or information you would like included in the Newsletter, please let us know.



**Next Quarterly Newsletter:**  
Publication in mid-December,  
submission deadline Dec. 1, 2017

## Questions about Sponsorship?

AGA Corporate Sponsors support the Chapter for an entire year.

We currently have four sponsorship echelons ranging from Bronze to Platinum, each with increasing support levels and engagement opportunities. All Sponsors receive advertising space on our website and in our Chapter Newsletter which publishes four editions per year, with distribution to over 200 members.

Several other benefits are offered depending on your giving level, including complimentary access to our Holiday Party, Awards Banquet, & monthly luncheons for employees from your company. Speak with an AGA Corporate Sponsorship representative for more details.

Contact Elizabeth Christian at:  
elizabeth.a.christian6.civ  
@mail.mil or [www.againdy.com](http://www.againdy.com)

## Thank You to Our Sponsors!

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## AGA 2017 School Supply Drive

From July 25th through August 14th, the Community Service Committee coordinated a school supply collection benefiting Indianapolis Public School #105. Pencils, loose leaf paper, spiral notebooks, crayons, folders, markers, erasers, underwear, undershirts, socks, and backpacks were collected in bins at the North and South entrances. FIVE large bags were collected and dropped off to the school in early September. The school, its students and the Community Service committee want to send a HUGE “Thank You” to all who donated!



Photo by Jackie Freeman

## Upcoming Webinars

[Leverage LinkedIn to Up Your Reputation and Relevance](#)

1 CPE) Sept. 28, 2017

[Auditing Relevance and Reliability of Performance Information](#)

(2 CPEs) Oct. 11, 2017

[Best Practices for Auditing & Quality Assurance](#)

(2 CPEs) Dec. 6, 2017

[Grants Management](#)

(2 CPEs) Jan. 10, 2018

## CEAR® Program

**(Originally published on the AGA National Newsletter's September 18, 2017 Topics Archive)**

AGA's Certificate of Excellence in Accountability Reporting (CEAR)® Program has been helping federal agencies improve their Performance and Accountability Reports (PARs) or Agency Financial Reports (AFRs) since 1997. The program was established in collaboration with the Chief Financial Officers Council and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget to improve accountability by streamlining reporting and improving the effectiveness of such reports so they clearly show what an agency accomplished with taxpayer dollars and the challenges that remain. The CEAR program reviews, with detailed critiques and recommendations, have proven to be a major factor in the steady improvement of these reports.

### Program Eligibility:

All federal agencies are encouraged to demonstrate their commitment to excellence by participating in the program, whether or not they are statutorily required to produce a PAR or AFR.

### Program Benefit:

PARs and AFRs are potentially the most important vehicle federal agencies have to present how dollars are spent and how programs are managed.

... for more information on this program and how you can apply, go to <https://www.agacgfm.org/CEAR/Eligibility-Requirements.aspx> or email [cear@agacgfm.org](mailto:cear@agacgfm.org) or call 800.242.7211 ext: 322

## April 2017 AGA Luncheon Featuring the Alan W. Dowd

Every month the Indianapolis AGA Chapter hosts or co-hosts a luncheon focused on providing training and growth opportunities for members of the DFAS community. On April 20, 2017, AGA hosted Alan W. Dowd as the guest speaker. Dowd is an award-winning writer



with experience in opinion journalism, public-policy research and communications consultancy. He is nationally recognized for his commentaries on issues ranging from faith to foreign policy.

Per the biography section of his website ([alanwdowd.com](http://alanwdowd.com)), Mr. Dowd is described as: The author of hundreds of articles, opinion pieces

and research essays, Dowd devotes most of his writing to U.S. foreign policy, national defense and international security. He is a contributing editor with *The American Legion Magazine*, a senior fellow with the Sagamore Institute Center for America's Purpose, where he publishes *Capstones*, which focuses on America's leadership role in the world; a senior fellow with the American Security Council Foundation, where he writes *The Dowd Report*, a monthly review of international events and their impact on U.S. national security; a contributor to *Providence*, where he publishes essays in the bimonthly print journal as well as columns and blogs for the journal's digital daily; and a contributor to *byFaith*, where he writes a column exploring the crossroads of faith and public policy.

Beyond opinion journalism, Dowd has provided communications and marketing support to organizations specializing in public-policy research, healthcare analysis, insurance and economic development. He has been affiliated with a number of leading think tanks, including the Fraser Institute and Hudson Institute, in addition to Sagamore. His research specialties include U.S. foreign policy, national defense and international security. He is also adjunct professor and lecturer at Butler University, designing and teaching courses on the history of U.S. foreign policy.



Article intro written by Cara Scott, biography written by Alan W. Dowd, photos by Elizabeth Comer

# CGFM® Certification Information

## What is CGFM?



Certified Government Financial Manager® (CGFM®) is a professional certification awarded by AGA, demonstrating competency in governmental accounting, auditing, financial reporting, internal controls and budgeting at the federal, state and local levels.

## What are the initial requirements?

To earn the CGFM, individuals must apply for the CGFM program and meet the following requirements:

- **Ethics** — read and agree to abide by AGA's *Code of Ethics*
- **Education** — have a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university
- **Examinations** — pass three comprehensive CGFM examinations
- **Experience** — have at least two years of professional-level experience in government financial management

## CGFM Practice Questions:

1. A government agency's mission statement should include the agency
  - (A) services and accomplishments.
  - (B) organizational structure and hierarchy.
  - (C) purpose and goals.
  - (D) performance measures and reports.
2. Revenues are recorded using the modified accrual basis of accounting when the receipts
  - (A) associated with the revenue will be measurable and available.
  - (B) are earned and expected to be realized.
  - (C) are received and deposited.
  - (D) associated with the revenue will be accountable and available.
3. The primary purpose of a performance audit is to determine whether government programs are
  - (A) over-expending appropriations.
  - (B) following generally accepted accounting principles.
  - (C) fully funding OPEB.
  - (D) meeting goals and objectives.
4. The objective of financial and non-financial performance measures is to
  - (A) demonstrate probity and legality in the handling of public funds.
  - (B) demonstrate taxpayer preference in allocation of funds.
  - (C) assess policy and reasonableness of budget allocation.
  - (D) assess government performance and program accountability.

Answers:  
1: C  
2: A  
3: D  
4: D

## CGFM® Certification Information... continued

AGA Indy hosted the CGFM On Site Training in late April/early May. It was attended by 23 individuals and the training covered all 3 CGFM modules. AGA Indianapolis paid for a portion of each member's registration cost as a way to give back to our chapter members and support an AGA initiative. Because of this training, 4 individuals joined our chapter.

These three comprehensive courses benefit both Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFMR) candidates studying for the examinations and those who wish to advance their knowledge of government financial management in general. Designed from the content outlines of the CGFM examinations, the courses provide in-depth coverage of government financial management topics at all levels of government. Each course provides high-quality, NASBA-approved, continuing professional education (CPE). A total of 48 CPEs was awarded and also counted toward DoD FM Certification.

The Modules covered the following topics:

### **Module 1: Governmental Environment**

This module looks at the organization and structure of government, public accountability, ethics in government, the governmental financing process and other legal and environmental aspects of government.

### **Module 2: Governmental Accounting, Financial Reporting and Budgeting**

This course looks at the general principles of governmental financial accounting and performance reporting, and budgeting, as well as the unique aspects of both federal and state and local financial accounting

### **Module 3: Governmental Financial Management and Control**

This course looks at internal and management control, auditing, performance measurement and reporting, financial and managerial analysis and techniques, concepts and controls.

For more information on the CGFM, preparation, or to check out an CGFM Module, please contact Dan Neumann at [daniel.b.neumann2.civ@mail.mil](mailto:daniel.b.neumann2.civ@mail.mil) or 317-416-8961.

(You may also visit <https://www.agacgfm.org/CGFM-Certification/About-CGFM.aspx>.)

**Article by: Dan Neumann**

## Maintaining CGFM Certification

To retain the CGFM certification, all CGFMs must adhere to the AGA's [Code of Ethics](#). In addition, to continue using the CGFM designation after their name, CGFMs must be in an active status.

### **Active Status**

To maintain the CGFM certification in an active status, CGFMs are required to:

- Pay the CGFM renewal fee by the due date every year.
- Complete at least 80 hours of Continuing Professional Education (CPE) every two years in government financial management topics or related technical subjects (within the designated two-year cycle).
- Maintain and, if requested by AGA, provide detailed information on CPE hours completed.

By submitting their annual renewal payment, CGFMs affirm that they have and will continue to abide by AGA's [Code of Ethics](#) and that they have fulfilled the [minimum CPE Requirements](#).

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# Coming Soon: An Automated, Integrated, and Interactive DoD FM IDP

Originally published in the DoD FM Workforce Connection Quarterly Newsletter (Vol 5, Issue 2 from June 2017.) by Dr Pamela Clay, OUSD(C)

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) (OUSD(C)) is developing an automated FM Individual Development Plan (IDP) capability for optional use by members of the DoD FM community. An IDP enables employees to systematically plan their annual professional growth through continued training and developmental activities to meet short and long term career goals. The DoD FM IDP is an interactive, easy-to-use tool that supports and facilitates communication between employees and their supervisors.

The DoD FM IDP is unique because it is integrated with the DoD FM Certification Program and FM civilian career roadmaps. Key features of the DoD FM IDP include pre-populated data specific to an employee's occupational series; grade; DoD FM Certification level; and tailored knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs) that are aligned to occupational series career objectives. The features integrated with the FM civilian career roadmaps include occupational series-specific competencies and options for experience, education, training and leadership programs and courses, and developmental assignments. The DoD FM IDP is an interactive tool for the employee and supervisor to use to support annual planning for career development, career broadening, and building technical depth.

The DoD FM IDP prototype was demonstrated at the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) National Professional Development Institute in San Diego, CA from May 31 to June 1, 2017. Overall, the DoD FM IDP prototype elicited positive responses from the FMers who participated in the demonstration. The DoD FM IDP will be available to use by Fall 2017.

For more information on the tool, contact Dr. Pamela Clay, OUSD(C), Financial Workforce Management Division at [pamela.j.clay6.civ@mail.mil](mailto:pamela.j.clay6.civ@mail.mil).

The screenshot displays the 'FM ONLINE' interface for an Individual Development Plan (IDP). The header includes the DoD Financial Management logo and the text 'FM ONLINE' and 'Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller) Professional Development'. Below the header, there are navigation links: 'Home', 'Training and Education', 'Performance Development', 'FM Certification Program', and 'Help/Support'. The main content area is titled 'FM Competency' and contains the following text: 'Your Individual Development Plan concentrates on completing your Level 2 FM Certification by your due date December 31st 2018. Your primary track is [Finance] and may consider [Budget] as an alternate track.' Below this is a table with columns for 'Competency', 'Hours Required', 'Hours Completed', and 'Approved'. The table lists several competencies with their respective hour requirements and completion status. At the bottom of the table, there are two text input boxes for 'Employee Comments (500 maximum characters)' and 'Supervisor Comments (500 maximum characters)'. A 'Required Courses >>' button is located at the bottom right of the form.

Competency	Hours Required	Hours Completed	Approved
Financial Management Systems	0	0	
Decision Support	0	0	
Concepts, Policies and Principles of Budget	10	10	
Accounting Analysis OR Financial Management Analysis	10	0	*
Budget Formulation, Justification and Presentation OR Budget Execution	10	0	*
Fundamentals and Operations of Accounting	0	0	

# ANNUAL 5K WELLNESS WALK/RUN AND FOOD DRIVE

Article by Brittney Jones

The wellness committee is partnering with ASMC and DFAS Wellness to present the Annual 5K Wellness Walk/Run and Food Drive. The event will be held at Fort Harrison State Park on Saturday, October 21, 2017. There is an entrance fee of \$7 at the gate that will be refunded to all AGA members with a receipt upon arrival to the Delaware Shelter. One non-perishable food item is required to participate in the walk/run. Check-in begins at 8:15am and the run/walk will start promptly at 9am. The registration form will be sent out mid-late September via email.

The Wellness Committee encourages you to challenge yourself during this event! We have provided some tips to help you prepare for the upcoming 5K:

- Wear the right shoes
- 5 minute walking warm up and cool down
- 8 hours of sleep every night
- Breathe in rhythm with your feet (every 2/4 steps in and out)
- Pace yourself
- It's not a race against others, it's a race against yourself!

- Don't run too much, too soon... ease into it!
- Farther, not harder
- Balanced meals throughout the day
- Breathe in from nose and out from mouth
- Exercise at least 2-3 times a week
- Follow this 7-week 5K training schedule for beginners from the Mayo Clinic

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<i>On run/walk days, walkers walk only. Runners run for 15 seconds/walk for 45 seconds.</i>							
<b>Week 1</b>	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Rest	Run/walk 3 miles (4.8 km)	Rest or walk
<i>On run/walk days, walkers walk only. Runners run for 15 seconds/walk for 45 seconds.</i>							
<b>Week 2</b>	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Rest	Run/walk 3.5 miles (5.6 km)	Rest or walk
<i>On run/walk days, walkers walk only. Runners run for 20 seconds/walk for 40 seconds.</i>							
<b>Week 3</b>	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Rest	Run/walk 2 miles (3.2 km) with Magic Mile*	Rest or walk
<i>On run/walk days, walkers walk only. Runners run for 20 seconds/walk for 40 seconds.</i>							
<b>Week 4</b>	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Rest	Run/walk 4 miles (6.4 km)	Rest or walk
<i>On run/walk days, walkers walk only. Runners run for 25 seconds/walk for 35 seconds.</i>							
<b>Week 5</b>	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Rest	Run/walk 2 miles (3.2 km) with Magic Mile*	Rest or walk
<i>On run/walk days, walkers walk only. Runners run for 25 seconds/walk for 35 seconds.</i>							
<b>Week 6</b>	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Rest	Run/walk 4.5 miles (7.2 km)	Rest or walk
<i>On run/walk days, walkers walk only. Runners run for 30 seconds/walk for 30 seconds.</i>							
<b>Week 7</b>	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Run/walk 30 minutes	Walk 30 minutes	Rest	<b>5K race day</b>	Rest or walk

Source: Galloway, J. Galloway's 5K/10K Running, 2nd. ed. Aachen, Germany: Meyer & Meyer Sport; 2008:38. Used with permission.

**For any questions, please contact Michael Gaudet x5657 or Brittney Jones x7515 or Steven Lawson x3953**

## Health Screenings Available (Promotion)

If you would like to find out your body fat percentage, body fat mass, and lean body fat mass, you can visit the Health Clinic located on the first floor by the south gate of the building to schedule an InBody Screening. Screenings will be held September 26, 27, and 28 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon in the Health Clinic. Obtaining body composition values is far better than stepping on a scale, because it can accurately distinguish between a healthy and unhealthy weight by ability to reveal the difference between lean mass and fat mass. Knowing your exact body composition values offers you a glimpse of what your existing body weight is made up of, so you have a better idea of what to work on when trying to lose weight. So, please get out there to schedule an appointment and reap the benefits of being aware of your health!

Screening. Screenings will be held September 26, 27, and 28 from 8:00 am to 12:00 noon in the Health Clinic. Please visit or email Kelsey Yoder at Kelsey.Yoder@foh.hhs.gov to schedule your screening.

# AGA COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS FOR 2017-2018

## FIRST QUARTER

July 9-12, 2017	PDC item for silent auction
August 14, 2017	IPS #105 - School Supply Drive
August 26, 2017	'Day of Caring' - partner w/ASMC
Jul/Aug 2017	Feds Feed Families – Brandywine Creek Farm
September 2017	Wellness Walk/Food Pantry donation

## SECOND QUARTER

October 2017	Salvation Army Coats for Kids distribution - partner w/ASMC
October 2017	Community Hospital East volunteer services
November 22-23, 2017	Moziel Sanders Thanksgiving Dinner Project - partner w/ASMC
November 30, 2017	Variety of Holiday Cards for Soldiers overseas
December 15, 2017	Angel Tree gifts for children of IPS #105 selected families
December 2017	Wreaths Across America

## THIRD QUARTER

January 2018	Service Event at Food Bank (Gleaners, etc)
February 28, 2018	Valentine's cards for soldiers overseas
March 24, 2018	Children's Bureau Easter Basket Project - Partner w/ASMC

## FOURTH QUARTER

April 7, 2018	Wheeler Mission Easter Food Drive at Marsh supermarket
May 5, 2018	Mutt Strutt



# CEC Meeting Minutes

**AGA Indianapolis Chapter Executive Council**

[www.agacgfm.org/indianapolis](http://www.agacgfm.org/indianapolis)

**August 17, 2017 / Conference Room 340R-1**

## Attendees:

Shawn McCracken, Michael Gaudet, Brittney Jones, Kim Smith, Dan Neumann, Alana Evans, Catherine Henshaw, Tara Crabtree, Stephanie Ulba, Amanda Pierce, Jamie Boruff, Jackie Freeman, Lindsay Harris, Adrian Perry, Alicia Turpin, Catrina Thompson, Demita Moore, Tynishia Weatherspoon, Cara Scott

## President's 2017-2018 Program Year Welcome

- GOALS: 1. Perform value-added community service 2. Increase membership 3. Increase event participation 4. Maintain Platinum chapter
- In order to reach Shawn, reach out to Megan Bodkin or Kim Smith. If you email him and need him to see it, send him an IM to bring attention.
- Think about co-chairs for your committee
- Survey Upcoming for Shawn to determine: What do people want out of AGA membership? What are they willing to contribute to AGA?
- Budget Review and Approval
- Budget submissions reviewed and adjustments made. A motion was made to approve the budget, motion seconded, budget approved. No opposed.

## ACTION ITEMS

- If you do not have access to K:\SHARED\AGA, please let Kim Smith know
- Shawn to meet with credit union to determine how to get their sponsorship back.
- Education committee seeking a new venue for the spring PDI
- Programs – we are in need of someone to step into this chair position. If you know anyone who is willing, please contact Kim Smith. Need to secure approximately 4 speakers for the year.
- Today is the last day to purchase tickets for the kick-off luncheon scheduled for next week. Get your ticket now and bring a friend!

Adjourned

## The next CEC Meetings are scheduled for:

- ◆ September 21, 2017 at 12:00pm in Conference Room 222 G-2
- ◆ October 11, 2017 at 12:00pm in Conference Room 340R-1



## Newsletter Articles

The deadline for submitting articles and updates for the December newsletter are due by December 1, 2017.

Please email submissions to:

Desiree.R.Garcia6.civ@mail.mil

Cara.M.Scott.civ@mail.mil

## OFFICERS

<b>President</b>	Shawn McCracken
<b>President-Elect</b>	Melissa Jacobs
<b>Treasurer</b>	Michael Gaudet
<b>Secretary</b>	Kim Smith
<b>Previous President</b>	Tony Hullinger
<b>3 Year Board Member</b>	Camille Schultz
<b>3 Year Board Member</b>	Maranda Summers
<b>3 Year Board Member</b>	Mike Leist
<b>3 Year Board Member</b>	Amanda Pierce
<b>3 Year Board Member</b>	Alana Evans
<b>3 Year Board Member</b>	Jayne Boruff

## COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Accountability/CCR: Dan Neumann

Awards: Tynishia Weatherspoon

CGFM Coordinator: Dan Neumann, Alicia Turpin

Chapter Recognition Points: Virginia Smith-Milan

Community Service: Jackie Freeman, Catherine Henshaw

Corporate Sponsorship: Elizabeth Christian

Education: Tara Crabtree, Stephanie Ulba

Historian: Brooke Neuerman

Incentive Points Coordinator: Megan Hart

Meeting Arrangements: Adrian Perry, Lindsay Harris

Membership/Early Careers: Candi Lorenzo

Newsletter: Desiree Garcia, Cara Scott

Programs: Amy Hole

Publicity: Mary Jelev

Social: Catrina Thompson, Demita Moore

Website: Katie Buck

Wellness: Brittney B. Jones

N. Central Region AGA VP Elect: Art Caraballo

North Central Region Regional Coordinator for

Membership/Early Careers: Maranda Summers

FOR ADDITIONAL CONTACT  
INFORMATION VISIT:

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