



BIOGRAPHY

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Biography – Major Gwendolyn A. Foster, Deputy Commander, Air Force Element Medical- Department of Defense

Maj Gwendolyn A. Foster is the Deputy Commander, Air Force Element Medical-Department of Defense (AFELM Med-DoD). In this capacity she supports the commander in her efforts to provide administrative oversight of all squadron members, ensuring adherence to Air Force policies and procedures. Together they provide Air Force clinical, training, and administrative expertise to various agencies, including partnerships with the Army, Navy and Marine Corps which enables the 275+ officer and enlisted medical professionals assigned to AFELM Med-DoD perform their duties at 65 geographically separated units throughout the Department of Defense and the world.



Major Foster entered the military at seventeen years old. She served in the Illinois Army National Guard and the Army Reserves for 8 years as a Field Medic. She was honorably discharged in 1996. However, after 9/11 the desire to join the military returned. Major Foster joined the United States Air Force on 15 November 2001. She is married to Robert Foster and they have 4 children; Roen, Jonathan, Jenna and Alecia.

EDUCATION

1995	Bachelor of Science in Nursing, University of Maryland at Baltimore
1999	Masters of Science in Nursing, University of Cincinnati
2007	CJ Reddy Nursing Leadership Conference, Washington, DC
2007	Nursing Service Management, Sheppard AFB, TX
2007	Squadron officer school (Correspondence)
2010	Air Command and Staff College (Correspondence)
2012	Air Command and Staff College in residence, Maxwell AFB, AL

ASSIGNMENTS

April 2002 – October 2003	Certified Nurse-midwife (CNM), Women’s Health Clinic	Langley AFB, VA
November 2003 – April 2006	CNM, Women’s Health Clinic	Yokota AB, JP
May 2006 – April 2010	GYN Element Leader/CNM, GYN clinic, WHMC	Lackland AFB, TX
April 2010 – June 2012	OB/GYN Flt Commander/CNM USAF	Travis AFB, CA
August 2012 – June 2013	ACSC student	Maxwell AFB, AL
June 2013 – Present	Deputy Squadron Commander/CNM, AFELM MED DoD	Andrews AFB, MD

DEPLOYMENTS

January 2008 – May 2008	WHNP (GYN team), Women's Health Clinic	Balad AB, Iraq
May 2012 – June 2012	Chief/CNM, MEDRETE TF Tropic	Honduras

MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS

Meritorious Service Medal (1 OLC)
Army Achievement Medal
AF Outstanding Unit Award (4 OLC)
Iraq Campaign Medal
Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border
Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (Rifle)

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

2004 374th Company Grade Officer of the Year
2006 59th MDG Group Company Grade Officer of the Year
2007 Recipient \$15K Texas March of Dimes Centering Pregnancy research grant
2009 Lackland Federal Women's Annual Award
2011 Recipient \$31K Clinical Investigative Facility Funds for Centering Pregnancy research
2012 Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) Advocate of the Year

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND ASSOCIATIONS

American College of Nurse-Midwives (ACNM)
AWHONN
Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION

1999 Certification in Nurse-Midwifery by the American Midwifery Certification Board
(*most recent recertification 2007*)

EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION

Captain	15 NOV 2001
Major	01 SEP 2009

(Current as of JULY 2013)