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# PRESS RELEASE

## Task Force Medical-Afghanistan Public Affairs Office

DSN (318) 481-4540  
Cell +93(0)792504663  
Charles.w.patterson@afghan.swa.army.mil



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### Westphal, Austin visit Warrior Recovery Center *Westphal and Austin Visit*

**KANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan** – Under Secretary of the United States Army, Joseph W. Westphal, and Vice Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. Lloyd Austin III visited service members serving at the Warrior Recovery Center in Kandahar during their Thanksgiving day circulation.

The distinguished visitors were shown the features of the center, and sat behind the camera and computer terminal of a tele-behavioral health machine.

The Warrior Recovery Center is staffed by the role 3 hospital Navy personnel in conjunction with Army and Air Force personnel from various units. It provides post-concussion care, neurology consultation, mental health, physical and occupational therapy, as well as in-theater post-injury convalescence in order to return service members to duty. The WRC works in conjunction with Combat Operational Stress Control and the Warrior Restoration Program.

The Restoration Program located within the WRC is a behavioral health treatment center focused on assessment, evaluation, and treatment with the goal of return to duty for troops in Afghanistan. The program has consistently achieved greater than 90 percent return to duty rates since opening in February 2012. The program uses tele-behavioral health to continue care after the service member has left the program, as well as to provide consultation to others in theater.

Westphal and Austin signed a sweatshirt to honor the work being done at the center which will hang in the WRC to remind service members of the military's commitment to health care.

CUTLINE INFO:



Under Secretary of the Army, Joseph W. Westphal, and the Vice Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Lloyd Austin III visit the Warrior Recovery Center at Kandahar Air Field on Thanksgiving Day 2012 to meet with service members and staff to see how the WRC impacts the health of the force in Afghanistan. (DoD Photo, courtesy Task Force Med-A Public Affairs)

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About us: Task Force Medical-Afghanistan (TF MED-A) is the theater-enabling medical command headquarters that provides medical mission command to all Department of Defense medical capabilities at echelons above Brigade Combat Team level.

For more information on the Soldiers, Sailors, and Airmen of Task Force Med-A, follow us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/Task.Force.Med.Afghanistan>

*Story by Army Major Charles Patterson, TF MED-A Public Affairs Officer. Posted to Army CORE at <http://www.army.mil/article/91775/>*

*For more information please contact us at [Charles.w.patterson@afghan.swa.army.mil](mailto:Charles.w.patterson@afghan.swa.army.mil) or call DSN (318) 481-4540*