

Commander Jonathan White Bio

Commander Jonathan White, Ph.D., LCSW-C, CPH is a career officer in the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps and a Maryland licensed certified social worker-clinical. He is an emergency manager specializing in the needs of children and vulnerable populations in crisis events. He is currently stationed in the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response as the Director of Recovery in the Office of Emergency Management and Medical Operations. He led the mission to reunify children separated from their parents at the U.S. border as the Federal Health Coordinating Official/HHS Operational Lead for the reunification mission. Prior to joining ASPR, he was the Deputy Director for Children's Programs in the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Office Of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), where he led the Unaccompanied Alien Children Program, which provides care and services to 40,000-60,000 children and youth annually who enter the U.S. without parents or legal guardians. He previously served as Senior Adviser in ACF's Immediate Office of the Assistant Secretary, responsible for crisis management, public health, and strategic initiatives. Prior to that he served as Deputy Director of ACF's Office of Human Services Emergency Preparedness and Response. Earlier in his social work career he was an oncology social worker with the National Institutes of Health Clinical Center, working with advanced cancer patients and their families. Previous to his social work career he was a college professor and labor union campaign staffer. He has deployed or held national-level leadership roles in over 50 domestic disaster, public health emergency, UAC influx, and programmatic crisis events.