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photo from <http://time.com/time-person-of-the-year-ebola-fighters-choice/>

PERSON OF THE YEAR

Barb Dahl

Captain Dale M. Bates, MPH, REHS, CHTP, has just been selected TIME magazine's 2014 Person of the Year along with thousands of other Ebola fighters; doctors, nurses, scientists, soldiers, aviators, technicians, mechanics, and engineers.

Dale is an officer in the Public Health Service (PHS), part of the Department of Health and Human Services, and one of seven uniformed services. In the early part of the 20th Century, service officers fought yellow fever, cholera, and plague. Today it is Ebola. About 65 PHS officers were handpicked for the Ebola mission in Africa and had the option of declining. No one declined. Whether Dale will have an opportunity to apply Healing Touch techniques in West Africa is unknown. It is certain that he will apply the healing concepts of centering, grounding, and intentionality.

Dale was drawn to the Healing Touch Program following his own healing from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Back in 1994, a gunman opened fire on a military hospital complex where Dale, ironically, had just been wired for a treadmill stress test. He barely avoided being shot and later performed CPR on two of the victims. He described himself afterwards as a "walking zombie" and although he received counseling - obtained no relief. Weeks after the shooting, a nurse took him aside and performed an energetic healing. For the first time since the killings, Bates relaxed and felt the numbness leave his body. He wept with relief. Further healing was provided by his classmates during a Level 1 workshop.

As a Commissioned Officer and Senior Public Health Analyst, Dale has had the opportunity to share the concept and actually use Healing Touch techniques in some very unconventional settings in Argentina, Papua, New Guinea, Vietnam, Louisiana (post-Katrina), and now West Africa.

Dale and his wife, Sue, live in northern Idaho and are the parents of three adult children. €



Above: Dale Bates in protective sterile gown - in West Africa working at an Ebola Treatment Unit