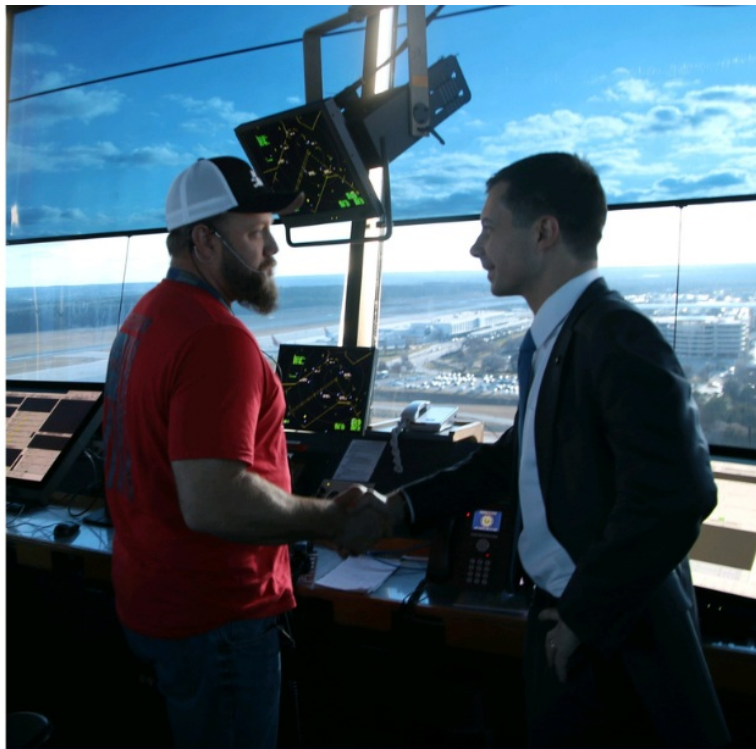




Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg Visits Raleigh-Durham ATCT

Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg toured Raleigh-Durham ATCT (RDU) on Dec. 11. The tour, led by RDU FacRep Nick Stott, highlighted the airport's operational aspects and infrastructure.

Secretary Buttigieg's visit was comprehensive, focusing on the condition of the airport and air traffic facilities. He expressed particular interest in the tower building, inquiring about the maintenance of the roof, the functionality of the elevators, and the HVAC system.



**Secretary of Transportation
Pete Buttigieg Tours RDU**

Raleigh, N.C | Dec. 2023

The tour wasn't just about the physical aspects of the airport. Secretary Pete made a special effort to engage with the air traffic controllers, taking the time to greet each member personally and shake their hands.

"Secretary Pete's visit today not only gave us the opportunity to highlight our facility's condition, but it was well-received by the staff, who appreciated the recognition of their hard work and dedication," Stott said. "It's reassuring to see our work recognized at such a high level."

The tour at RDU serves as a reminder of nationwide efforts needed to improve aviation infrastructure and the vital role of the professionals who work in, manage, and maintain the National Airspace System's critical facilities.

NATCA's Northwest Mountain Region Hosts Insightful Wellness Town Hall

NATCA's Northwest Mountain Region (NNM) successfully hosted its fourth Annual Wellness Town Hall, focusing on mental health and support resources. The virtual event, held Dec. 15, provided a platform for members to discuss mental health challenges, substance abuse, suicide, and everyday stressors that impact individuals in high-stress professions.

NNM Regional Vice President Alex Navarro spoke about why he started this town hall. "We in the NNM have made an emphasis to educate and support our members in honor of those that may struggle and those that we have lost. We must try and remove the stigma of seeking help in the name of wellness. We are grateful for the support that NATCA gives us and hopeful that this annual event can make a difference."



Northwest Mountain Region Hosts Fourth Annual Wellness Town Hall Dec. 2023

Jamie Sanders, of both the Drug & Alcohol Committee and Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and Sam Navarro of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM), provided a joint briefing about the different committees and resources available. They introduced speakers on each front to discuss real life examples from members that have utilized the resources. Speakers included retired NATCA member and National Office staff Bill Geoghagan, who shared his personal journey through the self-referral process for substance abuse; Pam Butler, a NATCA member who has benefited from CISM's support at her facility; and Michael Napolitano, a CISM Committee member who visited Butler's facility.

Sarah Grampp, Chair of CISM, and Martin Ramirez, Chair of NATCA's EAP, provided an oversight of their committees, as well as answered questions from participants during the townhall.

The event highlighted NATCA's commitment to the well-being of its members, reinforcing the message that no one is alone in their struggles.

Learn more about CISM and the support available through EAP [here](#).

Contact EAP [online](#), via [email](#), or at 800-234-1327.

NCF Backs Housing Initiative at Homeward Bound Fundraiser

On Nov. 29, representatives from the NATCA Charitable Foundation (NCF),

Lisa Fulford (Boston TRACON, A90) and Connie Earle (Boston Center, ZBW), attended the Homeward Bound fundraiser, an annual event hosted by Family Promise of Southern New Hampshire. This is the fifth year NCF has supported Family Promise through donations to their fundraising initiatives.



The Homeward Bound event, which features both silent and live auctions, received a donation of \$3,000 from NCF. These funds contribute to Family Promise's mission of assisting families in achieving permanent housing. The organization focuses on helping families who are working full-time, providing them with financial education and resources necessary for sustained independence and success.

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