

USAG Hawaii Parent Handbook

2017



CONTACT INFORMATION

Parent Central Services (Registration for all programs)

North

Building 1283

Monday-Friday...... 0730-1700

CIV: 808-655-8380/8313

South

Building 1782

Monday-Friday 0800-1700

CIV: 808-833-5393

Child Development Centers

Schofield Barracks CDC

Building 9098

Monday-Friday...... 05:30-1800

CIV: 808-655-7106

Petersen CDC Building 791

Monday-Friday...... 05:30-1800

CIV: 808-655-5293

Bowen CDC Building 1279

Monday-Friday...... 05:30-1800

CIV: 808-655-1569/1570

HMR CDC

Building 30

Monday-Friday...... 05:30-1800

CIV: 808-653-0724

Aliamanu CDC

Building 1783

Monday-Friday...... 05:30-1800

CIV: 808-833-5102/5570

Fort Shafter CDC

Building 900

Monday-Friday...... 05:30-1800

CIV: 808-438-1151

CYS Nurse/Nutritionist

Nurse

CIV: 808-655-655-0073 or 808-836-2106

Nutritionist

CIV: 808 836-2106

Family Child Care (FCC)

Building 645

Monday-Friday 0800-1600

CIV: 808-655-8373

HIRED! Apprenticeship

CIV: 808-655-0451

School-Age Centers

Aliamanu SAC Building 1782

Monday-Friday 0530-1800

CIV: 808-833-4932

Fort Shafter SAC Building 240

Monday-Friday 0530-1800

CIV: 808-438-5164

Schofield Barracks SAC

Building 1280

Monday-Friday 0530-1800

CIV: 808-655-6476

School Liaison Officer

Building 1283 CIV: 808-655-8326

SKIES Unlimited Instructional Programs

Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills

CIV: 808-655-9818

Youth Centers

Schofield Barracks Center

Building 9090 CIV: 808-655-0451

Monday-Friday...... 14:00-20:00

Saturday 12:00-20:00

Aliamanu Youth Center

Building 1781 CIV: 808-833-0920

Monday-Friday...... 14:00-20:00

Saturday 12:00-20:00

Fort Shafter Youth Center

Building 351

CIV: 808-438-1487

Monday-Friday...... 14:00-20:00 Saturday 12:00-20:00

YS Sports and Fitness

Aliamanu YS - Building 1782

CIV: 808-837-0176

Schofield Barracks YS - Building 9090

CIV: 808-655-6465

NOTE: CYS Programs are closed on all Federal Holidays.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

- Welcome Letter
- Customer Service (Caregivers Creed/Customer's Covenant)
- Mission
- Vision
- Goals
- Philosophy
- Confidentiality
- Diversity/Non-Discrimination
- Open Door Policy
- Army Family Covenant
- Communication/Feedback
- Chain of Command
- Contact Information

CHAPTER 1 - SAFETY & RISK MANAGEMENT

- Child Abuse and Neglect
- Background Clearance
- Sign In/Out of Facilities
- Child Guidance & Touch Policy
- Biting
- Bullying
- Video Surveillance System
- Adult/Child Ratios
- Training & Professional Development
- Parental Involvement
- Regulation & Inspection
- Accreditation
- Fire Drills

CHAPTER 2 - REGISTRATION PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES

- Global Data Transfer
- Patron Eligibility
- Parent Central Services
- Items Required for Child/Youth Registration
- Immunization
- Health/Sports Physical Assessment
- Special Needs Identification
- Special Needs Accommodation Process /Inclusion Action Team
- Special Diet
- Medical Action Plan
- Reasonable Accommodation
- Wait List
- Middle School/Teen Registration

CHAPTER 3 - DAILY OPERATIONS

- Daily Admission/Release: Arrival & Departure Procedures
- Denial of Child Care Services
- Re-Admission After Illness
- Basic Care Items
- Administration of Medication
- Self-Medication
- Rest and Nap Period
- Personal Items from Home (Clothes/ Shoes/ Jewelry/ Sleep Aids)
 - Diapering/Toilet Training
- Transitions
- Celebrations (Birthday& Holidays/Special Events)
- Emergencies (Closure/Evacuations/Mobilization)
- Serious Accidents/Emergencies
- Transportation Policy
- Field Trips
- Food & Nutrition
- Family Style Dinning
- Parent Participation Program
 - Parent Education
 - o Family Advisory Council
 - Parent Conference
- Mission Related Extended Hours
- After Hour Care

CHAPTER 4 – PAYMENTS AND REFUNDS

- Joint Based Location
- Tax Liability
- Total Family Income (TFI)
- Program Fees
 - Hourly Care Fees
 - CYS WEBTRAC Payment
 - Late Pick Up Fee
 - o Late Payment
 - o Financial Hardship Waiver
 - Leave/Vacation Options
 - Withdrawal/Out-Processing
 - Absenteeism
 - o Refund

Parent Fee Reduction Incentives

- Deployment Support Services
- o Parent Participation Fee Reduction
- Multiple Child Reduction (MCR)
- o Family Child Care Fee Incentive
- Extended Duty Child Care Fee Assistance
- Mission Related Extended Duty 24/7 Fee Assistance

<u>CHAPTER 5 – CURRICULUM AND PROGRAMS</u>

• Child Development Centers (CDC) & Family Child Care (FCC) Homes

- School Age Care
- Middle School /Teens
- Child and Youth Sports and Fitness Program
- CORE PROGRAMS
 - Child Development Center (CDC) (Ages 6wks 5yrs)
 - Family Child Care (FCC) Homes (Ages 4 wks 12 yrs)
 - School-Age (SA) Centers (Ages 6-12 yrs)
 - Youth Centers (YCs): Venture Point (Ages 11-18 yrs)
 - The EDGE! (Ages 6-18 yrs)
 - The HIRE! (Ages 15-18 yrs)
 - Youth Sports & Fitness Programs (Ages 3 -18 yrs)
 - Get Fit...Be Strong
 - National Alliance for Youth Sports
 - Parent and Outreach Services Programs:
 - Parent Central Services (Ages 0 -18 yrs)
 - Kids On Site/Short Term Alternative Child Care (Ages 6 wks 12 yrs)
 - Kids at Home (Ages 6wks 18 yrs)
 - Parents On Site/Parent Co-Ops (Ages 6 wks 12yrs)
 - CYSitters (Ages 6 wks 12 yrs)
 - SKIES (Ages 3-18yrs)
 - Deployment Support Services:
 - Operation Military Kids
 - Youth Technology Labs (Ages 6-18 yrs)
 - Operation Military Child Care
 - Child Behavior Consultants/Respite Child Care
 - We've Got You Covered
 - ICYSmiles
 - Give-A-Hug-Dolls
 - o Community Based Programs: Mission Youth Outreach (Ages 6-18 yrs)
 - Army Affiliated CYS Programs
 - Army Child Care in Youth Neighborhood (Ages 6wks 12yrs)
 - Army School Age Programs in Your Neighborhood (Ages 6-12 yrs)
 - Army Youth Programs in Youth Neighborhood (Ages 13-18yrs)
 - Army Sponsored CYS Child Care Programs: (Ages 6 wks-12yrs)
 - Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood
 - -Operation Military Child Care
 - Army Sponsored CYS Youth Programs: (Ages 6-18 yrs)
 - Operation Military Kids
 - Mission: Youth Outreach
 - Army School Support Services (Grades K-12)
 - School Liaison Officers (SLOs)
 - Home school Support
 - Homework Center (K-12 grades)
 - School Youth Sponsorship Programs
 - Tutor.Com (K 1st Yr College)

Dear Parents,

Welcome to USAG Hawaii, Child and Youth Services (CYS)! We recognize the strength of our Soldiers comes from the strength of their Families; we consider it an honor and look forward to supporting your Family readiness. CYS is an Army program that provides services to all Military, Department of Defense and Contract Agencies who support the mission of our Garrisons. Our highly trained staff is committed to providing a safe, nurturing environment that meets the holistic needs of the child/youth ages four weeks to 18 yrs old. Lastly, our programs and activities are specifically designed by early childhood and youth development specialist to meet the growing needs of 21st century military Families.

CYS believes that parents are the most influential individuals in the lives of their child/youth. For this reason, our facilities and programs strive to create a Family friendly environment where parents and staff work in partnership in the positive development of their child/youth. Research shows that when Families and teachers work together in support of learning, it results in the child/youth remaining in school longer, performing better in school and possessing a higher sense of self-esteem.

We thank you for partnering with USAG Hawaii CYS in the growth and development of your child/youth. We look forward to your visits and encourage you to become involved in the planned learning activities in the centers, in the home of your provider or in the comfort and convenience of your own home.

Again, thank you for considering USAG Hawaii Child and Youth Services (CYS)!

Sincerely,

ACINTH SMITH

& Coordinator

CUSTOMER SERVICE

CAREGIVERS CREED

I am an Army Caregiver, a professional trained in my duties. I serve Department of Defense Families who protect the nation by protecting their children. I will always provide a safe, nurturing, and enriching environment. Never will I put children in harm's way or allow others to do so. I will build trust with parents so they can concentrate on their mission. I will always treat Families with the dignity and respect they deserve. Army Caregivers are key members of the Army Team. I am an Army Caregiver!



CUSTOMER COVENANT

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) is committed to providing quality through service excellence to our Soldiers and Families commensurate with the quality of their service to our Nation. We understand that we create value for our customers through predictable, consistent and efficient customer focused service.

To that end, we promise our customer they will.....

- Always be respected & treated as individuals who are valued
- Receive a prompt and friendly greeting in a professional and courteous manner
- Experience aesthetically-pleasing facilities
- Receive timely, accurate and helpful information
- Be offered high quality products and services
- Have an opportunity to provide feedback

<u>Mission</u>: Our Mission is Caring. We support the military lifestyle while reducing conflicts between mission readiness and parental responsibilities. When a Soldier loses duty time during deployment, mobilization or contingency situations due to a lack of childcare, it negatively impacts the military mission. CYS provides critical support services to mitigate such stressors.

Vision: CYS programs are dedicated to providing:

- Seamless delivery systems for child/youth enrolled in CYS Family Childcare Homes and Child Development Centers.
- Predictable services
- Safe, healthy family-friendly environments
- Well managed programs
- Accountability for Army, Community, CYS Services Staff, Child/youth and Parents
- Satisfied customers Child/youth, Parents, Army and Community
- Maintaining status as a "Benchmark for America's Child Care" and becoming "Benchmark for America's Youth Programs"

Goals:

- Availability: Provide adequate program capacity and services with the right mix of age groups and spaces to support employment, deployment, health and fitness, youth development, instructional programs and school transition/education.
- Affordability: Operate efficiently within Army resource guidance. Establish fees that consider Army Family budgets and meet Army financial goals so that the CYS Program is affordable to both the Army and the Army Family.
- Quality: To support the growth and developmental needs of every child/youth, regardless of age or program enrollment, in a safe and healthy environment, with trained and caring adult staff, volunteers and contractors.
- Accountability: To safeguard the Army's resources by efficient management oversight, good fiscal stewardship, reducing waste and protecting assets of programs and services to Soldiers and their Families.

Philosophy: CYS programs are designed to help your child/youth build within themselves a positive self-concept that generates feelings of acceptance and respect for individuality. We believe in designing programs where children/youth have opportunities to participate individually or as a group in age appropriate developmental activities that allows for optimal social, emotional, physical, creative and cognitive growth. We promote and cultivate safe learning environments where your child/youth can resolve conflicts through learning age appropriate conflict resolution and mediation skills. We believe in partnering with parents and community to nurture a spirit of cooperation and self respect for self and others; reinforce character building and encourage positive parenting.

<u>Families</u>: Families are the first and primary teachers in their child's life. We support Families in this role through a variety of services that address the specific needs of each family, to include formal and informal education opportunities. Communication between the child's primary teacher and Family, as well as management and support staff, is critical and includes an open, honest exchange of ideas, concerns, shared decision making, and respect for cultural diversity. We encourage Families to share their culture, heritage and home language.

<u>Confidentiality:</u> Only authorized Child and Youth Services staff will have access to patron files. CYS is committed to protecting the privacy of patron information. Medical information concerning patrons is absolutely confidential under state and federal law and may not be discussed at any time with any person under any circumstance.

<u>Diversity/Non-Discrimination</u>: In accordance with Federal Law, Title VII, the Department of Army, Child and Youth Services prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, national origin, color, creed, religion, sex, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or associational preference in employment and in their program operations serving Soldiers, Families and the community. The Department of Army affirms its covenant to support and serve Family and MWR customers and employees.

<u>Open Door Policy:</u> CYS program level staff members are approachable and accessible to parent/guardians during the center's operating hours. Parents/guardians can voice their concerns, complaints and/or compliments regarding their customer service experience. CYS offers a Family friendly environment that encourages parents/guardians to drop in to visit or observe their child/youth.

<u>Army Family Covenant (AFC):</u> The Army Family Covenant institutionalizes a commitment by Army leaders to provide Soldiers and Families of all components with programs and services that maintain a quality of life commensurate with the quality of their service and sacrifice to the Nation.

<u>Communication/Feedback:</u> Parents/guardians who wish to post questions, comments or concerns regarding Morale Welfare and Recreation (MWR), CYS programs may do so at the following email address: www.contactus@armymwr.com. If you do not have access to email, write your questions, comments or concerns and place them in the drop box designated by the Parent Central Services office. You have the option of remaining anonymous or, should you desire feedback, you may include your name and address. You may also complete an Interactive Customer Evaluation (ICE) survey on your garrison's website

<u>Chain of Command:</u> The most effective way to resolve issues is to channel them through the CYS Chain of Command. Should all attempts at resolution fail, parents/guardians can elevate their issues or concerns up through the Chain of Command in the order below:

Primary Program Assistant (Classroom Lead Teacher)

Assistant Facility Director

Facility Director

Child Administrator: 808-656-0093 and Youth Administrator: 808-656-0093

CYS Coordinator: 808-656-0093

Director, Family and Morale Welfare & Recreation (FMWR): 808-656-0037

Deputy Garrison Commander: 808 656-1153

Garrison Commander: 808-656-1153

CHAPTER 1- SAFETY & RISK MANAGEMENT

<u>Child Abuse and Neglect:</u> DoD defines reportable child abuse and neglect as follows: Child abuse and neglect includes physical injury, sexual maltreatment, emotional maltreatment, deprivation of necessities, or combinations of these, by an individual responsible for the child's welfare under circumstances indicating that the child's welfare is harmed or threatened. The term encompasses both acts and omissions on the part of a responsible person. A "child" is a person under 18 years of age for whom a parent, guardian, foster parent, caretaker, employee of a residential facility or any staff person providing out of home care is legally responsible.

Child Abuse Reporting All CYS personnel are knowledgeable and considered "mandated reporters" who are required by law to report suspicions of child abuse or neglect. If CYS personnel notice suspicious bruises, cuts or burns on a child, they must follow the following procedures:

- 1) Report incident to the installation Reporting Point of Contacts (RPOCs).
- Ft. Shafter 808-438-7114 or Schofield Barracks 808-655-7114 and report to Child Welfare Services at 808-832-5300. **The state of Hawaii requires that Child Welfare Services is contacted at the same time as the RPOC.
- 2) Notify the appropriate CYS program director after notification to RPOC.
- 3) Program/Facility Director is required to notify the CYS Coordinator or designee of incident immediately.
- 4) The CYS Coordinator will report all allegations of abuse, violations of child supervision and touch policy allegations following the Garrison and CYS Serious Incident Report process which includes reporting through IMCOM-Pacific Region to IMCOM HQ G9 CYS within one business day (24 hrs) and provide follow up reports and status as requested.

DoD Child Abuse and Safety Violation Hotline Posters are placed in visible and high traffic areas throughout all CYS facilities and FCC homes should a parent/guardian/staff need to report incidents of suspected abuse. DoD Child Abuse and Safety Violation Hotline number is: CONUS: 1-877-790-1197 or OCONUS: 571-372-5348 (call collect).

<u>Background Clearances:</u> All individuals who regularly interact with children under 18 years of age in Army-sponsored and sanctioned programs are required to undergo detailed initial background checks as well as periodic reinvestigations.

Until all background checks are satisfactorily completed, individuals must volunteer/work within "Line of Sight Supervision" (LOSS) of a cleared staff member and are not permitted to be left alone with child/youth.

Staff under LOSS will be identified by nametags with first and last names and burgundy scrub tops or red bib aprons or red polo shirts. Staff who have completed background checks will be identified by nametags with first and last names and green scrub tops or green bib aprons or green polo shirt. Classroom leads will be identified by nametags with first and last names and blue scrub tops or blue bib aprons or blue polo shirts. Management staff will wear nametags with first and last names and appropriate business attire.

<u>Sign In/Out of Facilities:</u> To maintain a safe and secure environment, all visitors are required to sign in/out at the facility's front desk and obtain a visitor's identification badge. Parents/guardians simply dropping off or picking up their child/youth do not have to sign in. Parents/guardians visiting the facility or a classroom greater than 15 minutes must sign in at the classroom or at the front desk.

<u>Child Guidance and Touch Policy:</u> Helping a child/youth understand and make appropriate choices is the basis for child guidance. When a child/youth misbehaves, CYS staff works along with the Parent/Guardians using Positive Guidance (POSITIVE DISCIPLINE, POSITIVE PARENTING, GENTLE AND LOVING GUIDANCE) to identify the problem and find strategies that enable the child/youth to respond appropriately. Positive Guidance is a belief that children should be treated with respect, free from fear of violence and shame and guided with loving encouragement. *Corporal punishment is not allowed in the CYS programs under any circumstances, even with parent approval.*

Boundaries for appropriate and inappropriate touching are established to ensure clear understanding of what is acceptable and what is not acceptable. Inappropriate touching will be investigated and may be grounds for immediate closure of the FCC home or removal of a CYS staff member, contract employee or volunteer.

**Refer to Annex A - IMCOM HQ G9 Child, Youth and School (CYS) Services Standards of Conduct and Accountability Standing Operating Procedures dated 6 Mar 2015 for detailed information.

<u>Biting:</u> Policies will focus on modifying the child's behavior within the existing environment rather than "suspending" the child. When this is not possible, the Outreach Services Director will assist parents in obtaining care in another CYS setting if available.

<u>Bullying:</u> U.S. Army Garrisons and DoDD Schools are committed to making our facilities, homes and community safe, caring, and welcoming places for all who enter our doors, particularly our children/youth. For this reason, CYS has a zero tolerance for acts of bullying or disrespect towards children/youth or CYS staff. We treat each other with respect. Our community and centers define respect as follows: Treat others, *regardless of age or position*, with the same level of respect and dignity you wish to be treated with.

CYS defines bullying as follows: A mean and one-sided activity intended to harm where those doing the bullying get pleasure from the intended target's pain and/or misery. Bullying can be verbal, physical, and/or relational to the target's race, ethnicity, religion, gender (including sexual orientation), physical, or mental attribute. It includes all forms of hazing and cyber bullying and can be and often is continuous and repeated over time. However, once is enough to constitute bullying.

Bullying on post and as off post, including all forms of cyber bullying, can impact the targeted individual's feeling of safety and create an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment. The CYS Coordinator or Facility Director will immediately address such actions for the well-being and safety of all children/youth and the community.

<u>Video Surveillance System (VSS):</u> All CYS program facilities utilize a comprehensive video surveillance system. VSS is designed to deter and reduce the risk of child abuse in CYS facilities; protect staff from unwarranted allegations of child abuse, provide Soldiers and Parents

with "peace of mind" and support CYS management staff in the exercise of program oversight.

The cameras record most activity areas in the interior and exterior of the buildings. You may request to view a portion of your child's/youth's time with the facility manager. Due to confidentiality reasons, copies of these recordings are not authorized to be given to parent/guardians. Recordings are released only to authorized personnel such as the MPI and CID for official business.

Adult/Child Ratios: Staff-to-child/youth ratios must be maintained at all times of the day except under rare conditions caused by compensatory enrollment as outlined in guidance (see AR 608-10 for more information). The intent is to always be at ratio and not over or under ratio. Ratios will not be decreased to accommodate children/youth with special needs. Volunteers or other non-CYS staff not paid with CYS funding may be used to supplement the ratio.

All rooms in a CDC/FCC home are multi-aged with a minimum age span of 18 months. Maximum group size is limited to two ratios of children/youth (e.g. two ratios of preschoolers = 20; a ratio of infants and a ratio of pre-toddlers = 9).

In the Sports and Fitness Program, appropriate youth/adult ratios are maintained 100% of the time during all sports and fitness program operating hours. The adult/youth ratio is 1:15 at all times indoors and outdoors. The National Governing Body rules determine adult staff/youth ratio for specific activities. Please consult youth director for additional information.

Adult/Child Ratios are:

Childcare/SAC Center (Facilities)		
Adult/Child	Age	
Infants1:4	6 weeks to 12	
	months	
Pre-toddlers 1:5	13 to 24 months	
Toddlers 1:7	24 - 36 months	
Preschoolers 1:10	3 to 5 years	
Kindergartners	5 to 6 years	
1:12		
School-Age 1:15	1 st to 12 th grade	

Family Child Care	
Adult/Child	Age
Multi-age 1:6	4 weeks to 12 years
Infant/Toddler 1:3	4weeks to 3 years
Newborns 1:3	Birth to 12 months
School-Age 1:8	5 years-12 years

Training & Professional Development: All CYS personnel working directly with children/youth receive standardized orientation training before they are allowed to work directly with children. The orientation includes such topics as applicable regulation and installation policy; child health and safety; child abuse identification, reporting and prevention; age appropriate guidance and discipline; parent and family relations; health and sanitation procedures and position orientation. Training is ongoing and competency based. Assessments are completed to ensure staff comprehend and demonstrate the knowledge and skills learned from training. Other CYS professionals (directors, cooks, etc) complete an orientation and ongoing training as well.

<u>Parent Involvement:</u> Parent /Guardians are encouraged to participate in the planning and evaluation of programs through annual Garrison Multi-Disciplined Team Inspection (MDTI) program surveys, NAEYC Accreditation and Family Advisory Boards. These processes help ensure the safety of children/youth while improving administrative policies and programming issues geared toward program quality. *Moreover, parent/guardians who participate in the*

program may earn points toward fee reduction on their child care. For detailed information on the various ways parent/guardians can participate in CYS programs and activities, contact your Family Advisory Council representative or facility director.

Regulations & Inspections: Regulations and services apply uniformly throughout the Army; however, commanders have the discretion to modify specified guidance to meet the appropriate requirements. In order to provide consistency, all Army CYS programs are inspected annually and required to be in compliance with the following Army Regulations (AR), Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) and Public Law (PL):

Installation Level Child and Youth Services Inspection

AR 608-10, Child Development Services

AR 215-1, Military Morale, Welfare and Recreation Activities and Non-Appropriated Fund Instrumentalities

DoDI 1015.2 MWR Programs

DoDI 6060.2, Child Development Programs

DoDI 6060.3, School-Age Programs

DoDI 6060.4, Youth Services Programs

DoDI 1402.5, Criminal History Background Checks on Individual in Childcare Settings

DoDI 6025.18-R Privacy of Health Information

PL 101-647 Crime Control Act

PL 106-104 Youth Sponsorship

PL 104-106 – Military Child Care Act

PL 104-201, Sec 1044: Cities concern for lack of support for DoD Youth Programs

PL 106-65, Sec 584, Expanded Child Care and Youth program services

PL 106-79, Conference Report – DoD Report on Family Childcare Subsidy/Access to Military Child Care

PL 101-366 American with Disabilities Act

<u>Accreditation:</u> Accreditation is an activity, not a status. The benefits of accreditation are the external mark of quality, high standards, process improvements and support. CYS programs undergo a rigorous accreditation process. The Child Development Centers and School Age Centers as well as many of our FCC Homes are fully accredited programs through the following entities:

- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) sets professional standards for early childhood education programs age (age 0-5 years) and helps families identify high-quality programs for their young children.
- The Council on Accreditation (COA): Afterschool Program Standards include After School Administration (ASP-AM), After School Human Resources (ASP-HR), and After School Programming and Services (ASP-PS). The Administration Standards cover practices related to continuous quality improvement, financial management, risk prevention and management and ethical practice. The Human Resources Standards address recruitment and selection, training and professional development, support and supervision. The Programming and Services Standards set forth additional recommended practices for working with children and youth in out-of-school time.
- National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) Awarded to family child care
 providers who meet the eligibility requirements and the Quality Standards for NAFCC
 Accreditation. Accreditation reflects a high level of quality through a process that examines

all aspects of the family child care program, i.e. relationships, the environment, developmental learning activities, safety and health, and professional and business practices. Once family child care providers become accredited, they agree to abide by the standards set forth and to be measured against those standards with periodic integrity and compliance reviews.

Fire Drills: Evacuation routes/plans are posted at the primary and secondary evacuation doors and are clearly visible in each room/module, activity room, office, home, corridor, lobby, and assembly area. Fire drills involving all children/youth and adults are conducted monthly in all facilities. The drills are conducted during varying hours of operation to include mealtimes, naptimes and early morning /evening hours while children/youth are present to ensure that everyone is familiar with the procedures for safe evacuation of children/youth during a real emergency. Sturdy evacuation cribs with oversized wheels are provided for the evacuation of infants and non-walking pre-toddlers. Staff/providers conduct a name to face check using their accountability tool to account for all children/youth as they exit the facility, upon arrival at the designated meeting point and after returning to the facility. Documentation of the fire drill results including the number of children and adults present, time of day, total time to evacuate and corrective actions required is maintained at each facility.

CHAPTER 2- REGISTRATION PROCESSES & PROCEDURES

<u>Global Data Transfer (GDT):</u> This database makes it possible for Families relocating to a new duty station to forward their child's/youth's registration records to their next duty assignment prior to arrival. Upon arrival the Parent Central Services at the new duty station need only import the patron's information (e.g. names, birth date, child's health records, etc) is stored in the database. Families will provide needed updates upon arrival at the new location. Contact Parent Central Services for details on how to take advantage of this convenient tool.

Patron Eligibility: CYS accepts children as young as four weeks in Family childcare homes and through eighteen years old in CYS programs. Eligible patrons of Department of Defense (DoD) Child Develop Programs (CDP) include active duty military personnel, DoD civilian personnel paid from both appropriate funds (APF) and non-appropriate funds (NAF), reservists on active duty or during inactive duty personnel training and DoD contractors. The first priority is child care for Active Duty military and DoD civilian personnel. Each installation Commander and Defense Agency Directors and/or Commanders shall establish a priority system under which access to CDPs shall be determined.

The purpose of the CDP and School Age Center (SAC) programs offered by the DoD Components is to assist DoD military and civilian personnel in balancing the competing demands of family life and the accomplishment of the DoD mission, and to improve the economic viability of the family unit. Child Care and SAC is not considered an entitlement. (Reference: DODI 6060.2 and 6060.3, #4 Policy.)

Foreign Military Service members assigned to the Installation/serving the Department of Defense will pay the child and youth fee based on their Total Family Income (TFI). The eligibility criteria and priority are the same as any other Active Duty Soldier or DoD Civilian.

Military personnel of foreign nations and their Families when on orders from the U.S. Armed Forces, or in overseas areas when the overseas commander grants privileges in the best interest of the United States. (Reference: AR 215-1 when addressing children 0-12 refer back to AR 608-10).

Coast Guard when activated are eligible patrons. The eligibility criteria and priority is the same as any other Active Duty soldier. Fees are based on their TFI.

Retiree's eligibility is limited to the use of SKIES, YS and Sports and Fitness programs. Fees are not based on TFI.

Definition of Parent:

- A parent or legal guardian is defined as the biological mother or father of a child; a person
 who by order of competent jurisdiction has been declared the mother or father of a child by
 adoption or the legal guardian of a child.
- In Loco Parentis- When an individual acts "in loco parentis" as the parent, this can only exist when the individual undertakes care and control of another (child/ren) in ABSENCE of such supervision by the natural parents and in absence of formal legal approval. When the parent is still in picture no such "in loco parentis" relationship exists. This guidance has been provided by the IMCOM Office of Staff Judge Advocate.

<u>Parent Central Services (PCS):</u> Parent Central Services, commonly referred to as the "Gateway to CYS Services," is the first place a Family visits at a new installation to obtain information and register for CYS programs. CYS Parent Central Services:

- ✓ Verifies a patron's eligibility using the DoD ID Card (Military, Civilian DoD contractor assigned to the Garrison, Reservist/National Guard, Active Duty soldier on orders)
- ✓ Determines services patrons needs (Wait list, hourly, part day, full day, SAC, MS/T, SKIES, Sports ,etc)
- ✓ Explains age appropriate programs associated with patron's children;
- ✓ Conducts a search for care in CYS for immediate openings.
- √ Conducts initial and re-registration of patrons into all CYS programs
- ✓ Explains Wait List polices and assists with wait list placement
- ✓ Determines patron fee category IAW with the latest fee policy
- √ Schedules new patrons for program orientations
- ✓ Sends eNews publications and messages and contributes to websites of interest to parents.

<u>Items Required for Child/Youth Registration:</u> Children/Youth must be fully registered before they can use any CYS programs. Contact your local Parent Central Services Office to set up an appointment to complete your registration. Limited "walk-in" services may also be available.

To expedite or avoid delay of the registration process, please have the following available:

- ☑ Identification Card (Sponsor or Spouse)
- **☑** Social Security Number
- ☑ Proof of Child Eligibility (i.e. Legal Guardianship papers, Child Military ID Card, or Tricare card or DEERS printout from Soldier's AKO)
- ☑ Copy of Child's Birth Certificate Required of DoD civilians or contractors,
- ☑ Immunization Record or transcription
- ☑ Proof of Income: (i.e. Leave and Earning Statements/Pay Vouchers or proof of fulltime school enrollment)
- ☑ Health Assessment/Sports Physical Statement or Well Baby Check Up (due within 30 days of registration)
- ☑ Local Emergency and Child Release Designee (minimum of two)
- ☑ Family Care Plan (Dual/Single Military Only)

<u>ALL FORMS MUST BE SIGNED AND DATED</u> TO COMPLETE REGISTRATION!

DD FORM 2652	Application for DoD Child Care Fees
	Teen Self Registration Form
	CYMS Profile Print
	Family Care Plan (dual/single military only)
	Health Assessment /Sport Physical Statement
	Health Screening Tool (SNAP) Form/MAPS

<u>Immunizations:</u> Children/Youth accepted for childcare in CYS programs must be free from communicable diseases such as measles, mumps, hepatitis, scarlet fever and strep throat, and have written documentation of all age-appropriate immunizations. Child/youth immunizations must be up to date in order to participate in CYS programs. A waiver request must be approved by the Chief of Army Public Health Nursing (APHN) before childcare can begin. Children/youth who are not immunized will be denied childcare during outbreaks.

Immunization waivers for medical or religious reasons must have documentation from the licensed independent practitioner or an endorsement from an authorized religious authority of the religion respectively. Children/youth will be excluded from childcare in the event of an outbreak of a vaccine preventable disease.

<u>Health Assessment/Sports Physical Statement:</u> A current health assessment/sports physical statement, within one (1) year of registration, is required for children sixth (6th) grade and under. If a current health assessment/sports physical statement is not available at registration, it is to be completed within 30 days of enrollment. Health Assessments/Sports Physical Statements are good for three (3) years, as long as the child does not have any major health status changes.

Well baby exams or school athletic physicals can be used in place of the health assessment if dated, signed and stamped by the health care provider and parent within one year. Children/youth participating only in the middle school/teen program and SKIES Unlimited programs are exempt from this requirement. TriCare or other health insurance organizations will only authorize and pay for one child/youth health/sports physical assessment per calendar year.

Sports Physical: No child/youth will be authorized to play, practice or participate in games until a valid physical has been furnished. The form must be signed by a licensed health professional and certify the child/youth is physically fit to participate in chosen sport(s) and address any pertinent medical condition and/or constraint such as asthma, heart murmur, allergies. The sports physical must remain current throughout the season.

<u>Special Needs Identification</u>: The Army Child and Youth Services Screening Tool is required to be completed by parents to screen all children for special needs at initial registration and annually thereafter. Upon identification of special needs, supporting documentation must be submitted with the screening tool and forwarded by CYS to the Army Public Health Nurse (APHN) for review. If your child/youth has a disability or other special needs, the parent/guardian will be asked to participate in the Special Needs Accommodation Process (SNAP)/Inclusion Action Team.

Children and youth with the following conditions might be referred to the SNAP/Inclusion Action Team:

- Allergies
- Special Diets
- Respiratory Diagnosis
- Epilepsy/Seizure Disorder
- Diabetes.
- Other

The Multidisciplinary Inclusion Action Team (MIAT) The MIAT is a multidisciplinary group that explores installation child care and youth supervision options for children that have been diagnosed with life-threatening conditions, functional limitations or behavioral/psychological conditions. The team determines child care and youth supervision placement and considers feasibility of program accommodations and availability of services to support child/youth needs. Parent participation is crucial to the success of the MIAT. Every effort is made to accommodate children/youth with special needs.

<u>Special Diet:</u> Children/youth with life threatening food allergies or special dietary needs must provide a statement from their health care provider specifying (1) which foods the child cannot consume, (2) the resulting allergic reaction if ingested and (3) if applicable, any allowable food substitutions. Children/youth may not be eligible for services without appropriate documentation. Children/youth who have special diets due to religious reasons must have a representative from their religious institution provide a statement specifying which foods should be eliminated as well as allowable substitutions. For more information, please contact Parent Central Services.

Medical Action Plan (MAP):

Maintaining the health and safety of every participating child/youth in CYS programs is of utmost importance. If the child/youth has a medical condition/diagnosis, such as allergies or asthma, that may require him/her to take medication while participating in an activity, the parent/guardian will be asked to complete a Medical Action Plan (MAP). Medical Action Plans (MAPs, 7625-3 or Tool #2) are valid for one year or until notified of health status changes, based on the date signed by physician (MAPs) or APHN (7625-3, or Tool #2). This plan is completed by the child's/youth's health care provider to ensure CYS staff is aware of the proper medication and the necessary course of treatment for the child/youth.

Reasonable Accommodation: These are basic adjustments, supports and/or modifications that may be needed by a child/youth with special needs to facilitate access to a program on an equal basis to their non-disabled peers. Accommodation for children/youth with special needs is not considered reasonable if it imposes an undue hardship on the operation of the program, requires fundamental alteration of the program or poses a direct threat to the health or safety of the child/youth with special needs or others.

<u>Wait List:</u> Because of the high demand for childcare, it is not unusual for families to be placed on a waiting list. Placement on this list is determined by sponsor priority and the date of application. Parents are required to register on MilitaryChildCare.com to submit request for care at their desired programs.

Viable Child Care Option: Care to meet the patron's schedule that reflects the necessary program type (full day, hourly, part day, etc) and the appropriate age group (infant, toddler, preschool and school-age) for the child. Care may be on or off-post in any CDS system (CDC, FCC, SAC, PCS) at any location convenient to either the home or work. Viable off-post care options are those that are comparable in price and quality to CDS sponsored child care options.

<u>Middle School/Teen Registration</u>: Middle school/teens may self register as a guest for CYS programs by completing the one page registration form. Forms are available at youth services facilities. Youth may attend the regular Youth Programs (not field trips or special events until registration is finalized) as a guest member immediately upon receipt of completed form. CYS staff will validate the registration form. If registration is not validated within 5 working days from receipt of form, youth's guest membership will be cancelled. Once registration is validated (and, if required, DA 7625-1 is completed and returned), an annual pass will be issued to youth.

Some special events and field trips may cost a nominal fee, but participation in these events is not mandatory. In the case of field trips, written parental permission must be granted before a youth is allowed to participate.

To enroll in a team sports program, a sports physical is required in addition to this registration. Sports fees may also apply.

CHAPTER 3 - DAILY OPERATIONS

<u>Daily Admission/Release: Arrival & Departure Procedures:</u> Under no circumstance will a child/youth be released to any person who is not authorized to pick up the child/youth. Positive control of child/youth will be maintained at the classroom level.

Upon entering the CYS facility, parents/designated representative will swipe their child into the Child Youth Management System (CYMS) at the front desk before proceeding to their child's classroom. Under no circumstance will the parent/designated representative move beyond the front desk without first swiping in. After swiping in at the front desk, the parent/designated representative may proceed to the classroom. Upon entering the classroom, the parent/designated representative will sign the child in, annotating his/her name, date, time and signature.

School age children may be swiped in by their parent/designated representative or the child/youth will key their personal identification number (PIN) into CYMS and the parent/designated representative will then sign the child/youth in, as above.

Middle School/Teens (MST) youth participate in an open recreation program, which means they are allowed to enter and depart the facility without a parent/designated representative.

MSTs will swipe their key fob or enter their PIN and sign in before they may participate in the CYS program.

For pick up of child(ren), parents/designated representatives will follow the same procedures listed above.

Parents/guardians and visitors will enter and exit CYS Facilities through the front entrance/reception area, except during emergency evacuation and fire drills. During evacuations/fire drills, patrons will follow designated facility evacuation procedures.

Unless prior written arrangements have been made with CYS personnel, only parents or parent designees shown on DA Form 4719–R may take a child from a CYS program.

Children may not be released to siblings or other children under age 13 unless approved by the program director on a case—by—case basis.

School-age children may not leave a program unaccompanied without written permission from the parent.

No parent may be denied access to a child, including the right to pick up a child from a CYS program or FCC home, unless a copy of the custody agreement or court restraining order that relinquishes such parental rights is on file at the care giving site.

<u>Denial of Child Care Services:</u> CYS takes all reasonable precautions to offer a healthy environment. To ensure the safety of all enrolled children/youth the staff will observe children/youth for signs of illness or symptoms of contagious disease upon arrival, while they are in care and before they leave. Parents/guardians must pick up their child/youth that becomes ill while in care within 1-2 hour after being notified. Children/youth who appear to be ill or show visible signs of fever will be screened closely and may be denied admission based upon the following symptoms:

Inability to participate in daily activities.

Obvious illness such as:

- Temperature above 100.5° F (38.06° C) for children 3 months or younger or above 101.0° F (38.3° C) for children older than 3 months.
- Impetigo—Red oozing erosion capped with a golden yellow crust that appears stuck on.
- Scabies—Crusty wavy ridges and tunnels in the webs of fingers, hand wrist and trunk.
- Ringworm—Flat, spreading ring-shaped lesions.
- Chicken pox—Crops of small blisters on aired base that become cloudy and crusted in 2 to 4 days.
- Head lice—nits—Whitish—grey clot attached to hair shafts.
- Culture–proven strep infections that have not been under treatment for at least 24 hours.
- Conjunctivitis (pink eye)—Red watery eyes with thick yellowish discharge.
- · Persistent cough, severe diarrhea or vomiting.
- Symptoms of other contagious diseases such as measles, mumps, hepatitis, and strep infections.
- Pinworm infestation.

Re-Admission after Illness: CYS staff will provide Parent/Guardian with an illness/injury readmission form (AE Form 608-10-1B) detailing criteria for readmission. The Child/youth's health care provider should use the form to indicate when it's safe for the Child/youth to return to the program. However, a note alone from the health care provider **will not** automatically readmit the Child/youth into the program or override Army regulations. The child/youth may only return to the CYS program when the following conditions exist:

- Fever has been absent for 24 hours.
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea has stopped for 24 hours.
- The appropriate number of doses of an antibiotic has been given over a 24 hour period for known strep or other bacterial infection.
- Chicken pox lesions have all crusted, usually 5-6 days after onset.
- Scabies is under treatment and a physician's note.
- Lice are under treatment and a physician's note.

- Pinworm treatment has occurred 24 hours before readmission and a physician's note.
- Lesions from impetigo are no longer weeping.
- Ringworm under treatment and a physician's note. The lesions must be covered. If lesions cannot be covered, child/youth will not be admitted until lesion has shrunk.
- Conjunctivitis (Pink Eye) has diminished to the point that eyes are no longer discharging.
- The child/youth has completed the contagious stage of the illness and a physician's note.
- The child/youth is able to participate in the normal daily activities. Hand and foot mouth disease fever subsides usually 2 to 3 days; rash is not contagious.

<u>Basic Care Items:</u> Acceptable basic care items are limited to topical items used for the prevention of sunburn, diaper rash, teething irritation, lip balm, insect repellants and lotions. Products such as these are limited to those identified in AR 608-10 and must be approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). An authorization form must be obtained from the parent/guardian each month in order for such items to be applied. Basic care items will be in their original container and stored out of reach of children. Each item should have the child's first and last name legibly written on it, as well as on the outside of the bag. Contact your FCC Provider or program director for a listing of approved basic care items.

Administration of Medication: Certain medications may be administered in the CYS setting when it is not possible for Parents/Guardians to be present. Only prescribed antibiotics, antihistamines, decongestants, and topical medications from health care providers and U.S. medical treatment facilities may be administered to child/youth who are enrolled in full-day, partday or regularly scheduled school-age programs. Medications not on the approved medication list must have a medication Exception to Policy by supporting APHN. Medications that are prescribed as needed (PRN) will not be given in programs, with the exception of rescue medications. Parent/quardians will complete and have the health care provider sign the corresponding Medical Action Plan (MAP) for the required rescue medication. All medications must be in the original container, have a current prescription label and if not listed on the "approved medication list" should be accompanied by proper dosing syringe/cup/ spoon. A Child/youth must be taking the medication for at least 24 hours prior to re-admission into a CYS program. Parent/Guardians will complete and sign a CYS Medical Dispensation Record, DA Form 5225-R, for each approved medication to be administered. A Parent/Guardian must complete and sign the form before medication can be administered. This policy will be discussed during the Parent/Guardian orientation. Please contact the individual program for further information.

<u>Self-Medication:</u> School age youth can self-medicate if the Child/youth's health care provider determines that it is developmentally appropriate, and the youth knows enough about the health condition and the treatment procedure. Self-medication in CYS programs requires written instructions from the youth's health care provider clearly spelling out what and when self-medication is allowed and under what circumstances the youth <u>must</u> refer to the parents and health care provider for assistance. Parent/Guardians and youth are responsible for notifying the program staff of any medication that will be brought to CYS programs. Youth must self-administer all medications in the presence of CYS staff who will then document the incident. If a youth (6th–12th grade) cannot self medicate, then a SNAP review is required.

Rest and Nap Periods: Child/youth enrolled in CDC and FCC full-day programs or hourly care will have a rest period, usually following lunch. Child/youth wishing to nap can do so, while other child/youths engage in some other quiet activity (e.g. read a book, coloring, etc). Infants are allowed to follow their own resting/napping patterns.

Personal Items from Home:

- Clothing: Children should come to the center dressed appropriately for the weather (e.g) jackets and hats for fall and spring; coats, boots and snow pants, gloves/mitten for winter). Children should come in "play clothes" so that they feel free to participate in indoor and outdoor activities. Long dresses are not permitted for safety reasons. Washable clothing is recommended as children may be involved in messy developmental activities (e.g. art, cooking, and water and sand play). Two changes of clothing for all children under schoolage are recommended. All clothing and accessories should be labeled with your child's fuill name.
- **Shoes:** Children footwear should have rubber soles and be suitable for running, climbing and jumping. For safety reasons, flip-flops, thongs, heels without straps or wedged heels are not recommended.
- **Jewelry**: accessories such as earrings, rings, bracelets, necklaces, and barrettes are not permitted for children under three or children who are in multiage rooms with children under three.
- Sleep Aids: If your child is over 12 months of age and has a special soft toy or blanket that he/she naps with, it may be brought to the program. It is not recommended that children younger than 12 months sleep with soft toys. The naptime toy or blanket will be put in the child's cubby and be made available for use during naptime. These items will need to be taken home for weekly laundering. Please ensure all personal items (i.e., book bags, books, school supplies, clothing, and blankets) are labeled with your child's full name.

Diapering/Toileting Training:

- Diapers: For health and sanitation reasons, only disposable diapers are permitted in our programs. Cloth diapers are only allowed when the use of disposable diapers creates a health risk for the child and the parent/guardian submits a health care provider's statement to that effect. Diapers are checked and changed promptly if they are wet or soiled. Diapers and baby wipes should be labeled with the child first and last name.
- Toilet Training: Toilet training is a natural developmental process. Peak readiness is typically at 2 ½ years, but will vary with each child. We will not force children to use the toilet, nor will we punish a child for lapses in toilet training. Planning a consistent toilet routine for home and center will go a long way in helping your child accomplish this developmental milestone. You must provide sufficient changes of clothing and training pants.

<u>Transitions:</u> Children are supervised closely at all times and environment facilitates staff visibility and access to children. Extra vigilance is given during transition periods, i.e., arrival, departure, employees shift changes.

Celebrations:

Birthday and Holidays: CYS recognizes that religious, ethnic and seasonal celebrations
are a part of valuable traditions. Parents/guardians are encouraged to coordinate plans with
the program director and staff in advance of the event. Coordination is necessary as
appropriate items for celebration vary based on age and developmental stages of

children/youth. All food items must be store bought (e.g. cake or cake mix in its original sealed package) and approved in advance by the director and/or dietician prior to serving to children. Food items may not be prepared at home or in unapproved facilities.

• Special Events: Throughout the year, CYS sponsors special events and awareness campaigns such as Month of the Military Child and Army Birthday. Senior Commanders from Active Army, Guard, and Reserve and other branches of service; congressional delegates, local district officials and other key stakeholders plan and engage in observance of these events. Openings for child care are available during other special events such as balls and meetings that occur after normal operating hours. This type of care must be coordinated in advance through Parent Central Services.

<u>Emergencies Closures/Evacuation/Mobilization:</u> In the event of emergency, mobilization or other contingency in which the facility needs to be evacuated, CYS staff will follow a written Mobilization and Contingency Plan. Children/youth may be moved to the designated evacuation sites for safety and supervision if the emergency is not post-wide and only affects one facility. Parents/guardians and military police will be notified. Specific information can be obtained from your local CYS program.

Childcare will be provided only for mission essential personnel during post closures at the CDC, SAC, FCC programs or pre-approved Kids on Site location. Hazardous road conditions dictate bringing in only sufficient staff to cover the communities' needs.

In the event of illness, emergency or facility closure, CYS will make every attempt to contact the parent/guardian. If the parent/guardian cannot be located to pick up the child/youth, the following procedure will be put into action:

- The emergency notification child release designee on record will be called. If the center is unable to contact him/her, the next designee listed will be called.
- If none of the designees can be contacted, the military police will be notified and their procedure will be followed in reference to locating the parent and custody of the child/youth.

In Cases of Sudden, Serious Illness or Injury: In case of a sudden serious illness or accident resulting in injury to a child/youth requiring medical treatment, the CYS staff (volunteers, contractors and FCC providers) will immediately contact emergency services and parent/guardian. If the parents cannot be reached immediately, the child will be taken to the designated Medical Treatment Facility by ambulance. A representative from CYS will accompany the child to the medical treatment facility and continue to make efforts to contact the parents. Conditions that require immediate medical care include, but are not limited to the following:

- a) Convulsions
- b) Marked difficulty breathing
- c) Unconsciousness
- d) Laceration (either significant in size or amount of bleeding).
- e) Injury to an extremity with obvious deformity.
- f) Head trauma associated with vomiting or altered consciousness.

g) Medication errors such as giving medication to the wrong child.

CYS policy requires written incident/accident reports for falls, scratches, bruises, bites and scrapes that occur while your child/youth is in our care to include emergency situations. Parents/guardians will be informed of the incident/accident and will be asked to sign the report. All reports are kept in the child's/youth's folder and child abuse allegations are reported to higher headquarters.

All serious injuries requiring hospitalization will be reported to IMCOM HQ G9 CYS within 24 hours.

<u>Transportation Policy:</u> CYS staff is trained to operate government vehicles to safely transport children/youth on and off post. Our safe passenger rules must be adhered to at all times, please review them with your child/youth. Failure to follow these safety rules may result in the suspension of a child's/youth's transportation privileges. The CYS program does not provide/utilize bus monitors to and from school at CYS expense.

- Seat belts must be worn at all times in mini-buses. Buses will not move until everyone is buckled up.
- Everyone must remain seated and facing forward on buses. Buses will not move until everyone is properly seated.
- Inside voice is to be used at all times in vehicles.
- Eating, chewing and drinking are prohibited in vehicles.
- No objects (including body limbs) shall be extended out a window.
- Littering is prohibited. Trash should be placed in designated trash containers.

<u>Field Trips:</u> As part of the curriculum, field trips and nature walks are scheduled to Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (FMWR) sites and other local sites to augment the developmental program. All field trips receive input from Families, child/youth and staff to offer planned activities in conjunction with community service projects. Field trip sites are visited by staff prior to the scheduled trip Parents/guardians will be informed in advance of the date and destination of each trip and will be required to sign a permission form for each child/youth participating in the trip. Ratios must be maintained by paid staff supplemented with adults such as parents or volunteers. Ratios for high risk activities must follow guidance. Please consult the program director for additional information on high risk activities.

<u>Food and Nutrition:</u> FCC homes and CDC programs provide all infant jar food, cereal and teething biscuits. FCC homes and CDC programs offer on-site ready to feed iron-fortified formula for infants in full- and part-day programs. These specific USDA CACFP approved formulas are free of cost and parents/guardians have the option to decline. Parents/guardians are responsible for preparing bottles and providing an adequate number of bottles labeled with the date and child's first and last name.

Glass bottles are not allowed and all bottles must have caps. Medications or cereal may not be mixed with formula, unless otherwise indicated in the SNAP care plan due to medical reason. Bottles for infants (under 12 months) may only contain formula or breast milk. Whole milk is allowed for children over 12 months.

Infants (under 12 months) will be fed individually and according to the infant's feeding plan. Infant Feeding Plans are based on USDA CACFP guidelines and are established by the parent and recommendations of the child's physician or other qualified health professional.

<u>Family Style Dining:</u> With the exception of SAC and YC programs that serve buffet-style meals, CYS programs sit and dine "family style" with children/youth in FCC homes and centers. Family style dining promotes expanded language and cognition skills, builds fine motor skills and models appropriate eating habits while fostering social interactions. Most importantly, family style dining promotes a feeling of unity and acceptance that is essential to emotional development. It is developmentally age appropriate for children/youth to participate in cleaning and setting tables, preparing meals, serving themselves (with staff assistance if needed) and assisting with clean-up after meals.

<u>Parent Participation Program:</u> The Military Child Care Act requires the establishment of a parent participation program at each DoD installation. The program allows parents/guardians to earn points by participating in pre-approved activities on post, off post or in the comfort of the parent's home. *Parent/guardians who wish to take advantage of this cost saving opportunity will receive a 10% monthly fee reduction.* Here are a few ways Parent/Guardians can earn points towards fee reductions in childcare:

- Parent Education: Offer classes at least quarterly during the CYS Orientation Training and through Army Community Service. Regularly scheduled classes include some of the following (1) child growth and development (2) special needs awareness, (3) character counts, (4) baby sign language and (5) child guidance techniques.
- Parent Advisory Board (PAB): The PAB is a parent/guardian forum that meets at least quarterly to discuss current issues and offer recommendations for CYS program and service improvements. Parent/Guardians concerns are channeled through the program director to the installation commander for review and disposition.
- Parent Conferences: Provide parents/guardians a formal means of communicating with those who provide direct care to their children on a regular basis. It offers a great opportunity for Parent/Guardians to learn up to date community news and program information while discussing their child's/youth's developmental progress.

Mission Related Extended Hours: Provided at no additional cost for short term child care (generally up to 3 hours/day) CYS childcare programs support patrons that have mission requirements, mobilization, deployment, contingency or TDY responsibilities after normal duty hours. Child Development Centers (CDC) supports unit requirements for childcare during training exercises, and alerts to the extent possible. CDC operating hours for full-day care will reflect installation variable duty hours. Other childcare programs provided for extended hours are FCC Extended Hours and Long Term Care homes, trained CDC baby-sitters, and Army Community Services foster homes as well as available off-post options. Extended hours per operations are according to the Installation's Child Youth Operations Plan (ICOP).

Families are not charged for approved Army mission related extended hours care. Families must provide written validation confirming the mission related extended hours care. The Soldier's Unit/Sponsor's Supervisor will provide documentation to qualify for approved mission related extended hours care to the center based program staff or FCC Provider. Extended duty hours care is generally up to 3 hours/day.

<u>After Hour Care:</u> Children/youth must be picked up by posted closing time. When a Child/youth is left at the site past closing, staff will attempt to contact the parent/guardian using all telephone numbers provided, to include the emergency release designees. If there are no positive

^{**}Annex B – Parent Participation Program Fact Sheet

responses to these closing time, CYS childcare placement	will develop local	d/youth has not been Standing Operation	picked up within 1 hour of Procedures to address	of posted alternate

CHAPTER 4: PAYMENTS AND REFUNDS

<u>Joint Base Location:</u> At Joint Base locations where Army is the supporting Service, non-Army Families are not eligible for deployment support services fee reductions unless reimbursed by the supported Service. At Joint Base locations where the Army is supported by another Service, Army Families are eligible for deployment fee reductions, which are reimbursed to the supporting Service

<u>Tax Liability:</u> All Civilian Families using on-post child care are required to register with the designated DoD Third Party Administrator and complete an online parent enrollment form to determine the tax value of their child care subsidy. Each year DoD must determine the value of the child care subsidy. This net value is the amount that is considered potentially taxable income associated with the DoD child care subsidy. Only child care subsidies that exceed the \$5,00 (\$2,500 for married individuals filing separately) exclusion and taxable and reportable. Sponsors are responsible for considering any dependent Care flexible Spending Accounts (DCFSAs) to determine if the net value plus the DCFSA value exceeds the \$5,00 or \$2,500 amount.

Total Family Income (TFI) is all earned income including wages, salaries, tips, special duty pay (flight pay, active duty Demo pay, sea pay), and active duty save pay, long-term disability benefits, voluntary salary deferrals, retirement or other pension income, including SSI paid to the spouse and VA benefits paid to the surviving spouse before deductions for taxes. TFI calculations must also include quarter's subsistence and other allowances appropriate for the rank and status of military or civilian personnel whether received in cash or in kind. For dual military living in government quarters include BAH RC/T of the senior members only; for Defense civilian OCONUS include either the housing allowance or the value of the in-kind housing provided. Current BAH chart is located at http://www.defensetravel.dod.mil/suite/bah.cfm

DOCUMENTATION NEEDED TO DETERMINE TFI:

- a. Military Sponsor's current Leave and Earnings Statement (LES).
- b. Civilian Sponsor's current LES.
- c. Spouse/Partner's LES, W-2 forms, and/or other income documentation.
- d. Schedule C (IRS return) from previous year to demonstrate wages from self employments.
- e. Letter from employer if Spouse/Partner has not worked one full month. The letter must include rate of pay and anticipated average number of employment hours in order to calculate an annual pay estimate. Pay stub must be submitted following the first month of employment.

Families who fail to show proof of TFI are charged Category 9 parent fees. If the required documents are provided at a later date, the TFI Category is adjusted accordingly and new fees effective from that date.

Fees for Blended Families AND Fees for Legally Separated Families will be based on the TFI of the household.

Fees for Legally Separated Families are contingent on a legal separation document or a notarized statement stating the Sponsor is legally separated.

Annual TFI will not be adjusted unless:

- Unemployed spouse/partner finds paid employment
- Family is granted a Financial Hardship/Extenuating Circumstances Reduction

- Annual Internal Review Audit documents inaccurate documentation of TFI or Fee changes
- Special circumstances (Furlough)

Parent fees will be adjusted when:

- The Family moves to a new TFI Category.
- Child/youth transition between programs with different fees, e.g., full day care to kindergarten, Full Day to Part Day, After School to Summer Camp, Child Development Center to Family Child Care, etc.
- Army Fee policy directs a fee change.
- A Financial Hardship Waiver is approved.
- The Family relocates to another installation with different fees
- Special circumstances (Furlough)

<u>Program Fees:</u> Are generated semi-monthly on the 1st and the 15th of the month. Parents can pay monthly fees for regularly scheduled Full Day, Part Day and Part Time Care in monthly or semi-monthly installments. Incoming Families make their initial payment for care at the time they accept the child care space offered by the CYS Parent Central Services Office. **Services will be terminated if full payment plus late fee charges for the month are not received by the last working day of the month unless a command approved financial hardship waiver has been initiated....**

- Hourly Care fees: The Standard Army-wide hourly care rate is \$4 per hour per child for ALL CYS programs regardless of Total Family Income (TFI) category. Multiple Child Reductions do not apply to hourly care. Hourly care payment_is due at the time of pick-up. Failure to make the payment will result in termination of availability of child care services. Same day or walk-ins may be accepted on a space available basis. Reservations for childcare can be made in advance, check with your installation for further details.
- CYS WEBTRAC Payments: Some CYS programs allow patrons to make online payments.
 Please contact your local Parent Central Services for availability of WebTrac payment options.

Other Payment Options: Payments may be made with cash, check, credit card, auto debit or through WebTrac. Personal checks will be accepted in the amount due only.

- Late Pick-Up Fee: CDC and SAC programs have a late pick-up fee of \$1.00 per minute up to 15 minutes per Family per site regardless of the number of children in care at that site. For example, a Family who has two children in the CDC and one child in SAC will pay a \$15 late pickup fee at each site if pick up is 15 minutes after closing. When the Family is later than 15 minutes, the Family is charged \$5.00 per child, per site for the remainder of the hour and then \$5.00 per child, per site for each hour thereafter. Late pick-up fees are not charged for approved mission related circumstances or when specific arrangements to extend child care are made prior to pick-up. Be sure to contact Parent Central Services office regarding documents required for the approval of mission related circumstance.
- Late Payments: Payment for regular scheduled care for full day/part day care. Late payment fee is charged after the 5th business day and is \$10.00 per child per payment cycle (semi-monthly) or \$20.00 (monthly).

When late or non-payments have been identified, the procedures as outlined in the SOP, Subject: "Non-Payment of Child Care Fees, Collection of Delinquent Accounts and Denial of Services" will be followed which include:

- Verbal Warning. By Front Desk staff during swipe in/swipe out on the 4th and 5th days of each semi-monthly billing cycle. CYMS swipe stations should be toggled to 'Display Message if HH Balance Exists' so front desk personnel can give parents a courtesy reminder of approaching payment deadlines.
- Personal Follow-Up. By Program Manager on 6th day of the <u>first</u> delinquent billing cycle. Families with an outstanding balance should be contacted via telephone, in writing or in person regarding the outstanding balance. This will include informing Families of their option to request a Financial Hardship Waiver from IMCOM G9 and reminding of them of penalties if payment arrangements are not made by established deadlines.
- Written Notice of Non-Payment/Potential Termination. By Program Manager on 6th day of the <u>second</u> delinquent billing cycle. This will be a template Army-standard notice. If possible, Program Manager should also do a final verbal follow-up in conjunction with this letter to ensure the Family fully understands the pending consequences and to encourage them to seek assistance if warranted.

Note: When payment is not received, garnishment of wages will be initiated.

Financial Hardship Waiver: Families must demonstrate a need for a child care fee reduction due to financial hardship based on a review by an ACS financial counselor or a certified financial professional external to CYS Services. The counselor will provide a recommendation for a fee reduction to the Garrison Commander. Fee Adjustments for Financial Hardships must be re-evaluated at least every six months by the counselor or Garrison Commander. **Families whose child care fees are 25% or more of their Total Family Income (TFI) may request a hardship review.** Contact the Outreach Services director at your childcare facility for assistance in filing a hardship.

Leave/Vacation Options: Family Child Care Fees are annualized during registration for a 2 week Leave/Vacation which reserves the child's space. The option chosen must be used during the registration year and cannot be carried over into the next year. Families who opt for 4 weeks of Leave/Vacation pay a higher monthly fee than families who chose the 2 weeks fee option. Family Leave/Vacation must be taken in a minimum of one week increments. Families must provide advance notice prior to taking leave/vacation. **Leave vacation options are available to patrons enrolled in CDC/FCC programs ONLY.**

Withdrawal/Out-processing: Parents are required to provide a minimum of 2 weeks' notice in writing prior to withdrawal. This notice should be given to the Center Director, Assistant Director or clerical staff. Failure to submit written notification will result in on-going assessment fees. The other available option is for parents to use the two week leave in lieu of the two week notice of withdrawal.

Absenteeism: No credits or refunds are issued for child/youth absenteeism due to: (a) regular childhood illnesses or injuries (two weeks or less) (b) CYS program closures due to inclement weather, staffing training, or special installation circumstances determined by the Garrison Commander (GC), (c) withdrawal except in situations approved by the CYS Coordinator where the child/youth has not started the class and for (d) unused leave/vacation. Sponsors requesting refunds for circumstances outside the scope of this policy must submit their justification in writing through the program director to the garrison commander.

Refunds: Refunds are authorized for: (a) program closures for repair or renovation when an alternate care setting is not provided (b) unexpected prolonged child absence due to Family emergency or extended illnesses (c) withdrawal from a regularly scheduled child care programs upon receipt of PCS orders and (4) withdrawal from a Youth Sport (occurring before midseason of the sport) upon receipt of PCS orders. Forms are available at Parent Central Services or at your program facility.

PARENT FEE REDUCTIONS/INCENTIVES:

Deployment Support Services: Parents receive a 20 percent deployment reduction for regularly scheduled child care and reduction for other deployment support services. Community Based Fee Assistance Support Services are available through Army Child Care in Your Neighborhood (ACCYN) and Army School-age Programs in Your Neighborhood (ASPYN) providers.

Army Wounded Warriors/Warriors in Transition and Survivors of Fallen Soldiers in TFI Categories 2-9 are assigned to TFI Category 1 regardless of income. Families whose TFI already places them in Category 1 receive a reduction of 20 percent below their category 1 parent fee.

Please contact Parent Central Services for additional information regarding Deployment Support Services.

Parent Participation Fee Reduction: Parents may earn a fee reduction for participating for a minimum of 10 hours in CYS programs. A 10% reduction on one month's fee for one child/youth may be awarded for each 10 hours of parent participation. Reductions are limited to 10% per child/youth per month.

Parent participation hours may accumulate month to month and may not be shared with other Families. The CYS Coordinator may approve Military Units or formal organizations such as Family Readiness Groups (FRG) to "adopt" Families who are unable to accumulate participation hours due to deployment or other extenuating circumstances. Families **must be identified and approved prior** to the accumulation of points. Members of units or organizations are not required to have children or youth enrolled in CYS Services. Adopted Families **may not** use hours accumulated on their behalf when the deployment or extenuating circumstance ends.

Multiple Child Reductions (MCR): A 15% MCR is applied when more than one child is enrolled in regularly scheduled child care programs or seasonal youth sports offered by CYS Services. MCRs for child care and youth sports are determined separately and may not be combined. MCRs are *not* applied to Hourly Care, SKIES*Unlimited* fees, or School Age occasional user fees.

Seasonal youth sports: MCR applies to Families with more than one child enrolled in a seasonal youth sport. The Standard Army-wide Multiple Child Fee Reduction is applied to the second child and all subsequent children enrolled in a youth sport occurring in the same season. Regularly scheduled child care programs (Full-day, Part day, FCC home, Before and After School Age, etc): MCR applies to Families with more than one child enrolled in ongoing child care programs. The child enrolled in the highest cost care option is considered the first child and pays full fee. The Standard Army-wide Multiple Child Fee Reduction is applied to the second child and all subsequent children enrolled in regular ongoing child care program.

Family Child Care Fee Incentive: FCC Parent Fee Assistance represents a savings to Families over Army CDC and SAC fees for designated Total Family Income Categories. This

savings is an efficiency incentive to encourage more Families to use FCC Homes as their primary source of child care. Contact Parent Central Services for additional information on FCC Parent Fee Assistance.

Extended Duty Child Care Fee Assistance: Provided at no additional cost for short term child care (generally up to 3 hours/day) beyond FCC regularly scheduled care hours (based on Sponsor's typical duty day/care requirements). A written validation statement is required from the Soldier's unit/Sponsor's Supervisor to the FCC Provider to qualify.

Mission Related Extended Duty 24/7 Fee Assistance: Provided at no additional cost for care beyond FCC regularly scheduled care hours. Individual Families are authorized up to 15 days for Extended Duty Child Care per year.

CHAPTER 5 - CURRICULUM AND PROGRAMS

CORE CURRICULUM:

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS (CDC)/FAMILY CHILD CARE (FCC) HOMES

The Creative Curriculum is the authorized curriculum used in CDCs/FCC for children ages 0–5. The Teaching Strategies (TS) Gold developmental assessment, *Checkpoints*, will be used to document the progress of children. All activities will be developmental in nature and recognize children's individual differences by providing an environment that encourages self-confidence, development of self-help and life skills, curiosity, creativity, and self-discipline as outlined in the Creative Curriculum. Concrete experiential learning activities encompass the following six domains: Social, Physical, Language/Literacy, Cognitive/Intellectual, Emotional and Cultural.

Typical child routines such as meal times, clean-up times, napping and rest times, and diapering and toileting are integral parts of the curriculum, not separate items between curriculum areas. Daily specific lesson plans and schedule along with weekly lesson plans are posted.

SCHOOL AGE CARE (SAC)

Curriculum and programming centers around the school age four services areas: Sports & Fitness, Fine Arts, Citizenship & Leadership, and Leisure & Recreation. Children will have input into activity choices to ensure the activities meet their needs and interests. Documentation of child input into activities is on file in the program. Program choices are designed and implemented to meet a variety of child interests to cover a wide variety of skill, ability and interest levels.

Daily schedules/lesson plans will be flexible, provide stability without being rigid, allow children to meet their physical needs (e.g., water, food, restrooms) in a relaxed way, allow children to move smoothly from one activity to another, usually at their own pace, and facilitate transitions when it is necessary for children to move as a group.

Program activities are offered in Life Skills, Citizenship and Leadership Programming. A variety of clubs and committees will be available to expand children's interpersonal, speaking, and leadership skills. Program choices will be offered to help children develop skills in independent living and life planning such as cooking, swimming, etc.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/TEENS (MST)

The MST program utilizes a comprehensive youth development curriculum framework to ensure the physical, cognitive, social and emotional needs of youth are addressed. The framework is comprised of Four Service Areas to meet the core requirements. Youth will work together with staff to ensure they have input into activity choices. Activities must meet the needs and interests of the youth. Intent is to have a combination of youth and adult choices in the lesson plan. Youth will help determine frequency. Activities will reflect the program's written philosophy and goals for youth in a prominent area.

Program opportunities will be offered in life skills, citizenship and leadership in the following program areas:

- Youth Councils, which will provide opportunities for youth to actively participate in planning and conducting youth programs.
- Volunteer Community Service will provide opportunities for youth to actively learn through service to their community.
- Workforce Preparation provides opportunities for youth to prepare for successful entry into the workforce.
- Youth Technology Lab. Provides opportunities for youth to explore interests, enhance technology skills, and research information.

We encourage our Families to share their culture, heritage and home language throughout all curriculums.

CHILD AND YOUTH SPORTS AND FITNESS PROGRAM

The Child and Youth Sports and Fitness Program utilizes a comprehensive framework to ensure the physical, cognitive, social and emotional needs of youth are addressed;

- The System is comprised of Four Service Areas to meet the core requirements:
 - o Team Sports
 - o Individual Sports
 - o Fitness and Health
 - o Outreach
- Team Sports are offered for all children ages five and above in the following sports:
 - o Baseball/T-Ball
 - o Soccer
 - o Basketball
 - A minimum of two additional teams sports offered at any time of the year (volley ball, dodge ball, cheerleading, tackle football, etc., based on community needs and interests).
- Individual Sports are offered in at least three locally selected sports. A minimum of one
 Fitness and Health option is offered anytime during the year such as healthy lifestyles,
 healthy eating, personal hygiene, etc.
- All youth sports equipment and materials comply with the National Operating Committee Standards in Athletic Equipment (NOCSAE) or American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) approval for Safety.
- Fitness and Health programs focus on nutrition education/counseling and health promotion. These programs are implemented throughout the CYS system.
 - Nutrition, Counseling or Health activities/event
 At least one other locally determined option i.e. aerobics, swimming laps, weight lifting, biking, fitness trails, challenge courses, walking, jogging, hiking, etc.

Outreach programs are offered in CDC, SAC, MST and FCC in four areas throughout the year.

- Intramurals (SAC/MST)
- Motor Skill Activities (CDC/SAC) i.e. Start Smart

	SAC/MST) i.e. Gymna			
A minimum of one add	itional outreach activit	y (usually a specia	l event or camp) is of	fered.

CORE PROGRAMS:

Child Development Centers (CDCs): (Ages 6 weeks-5 years) Offer on-post full-day, part-day, hourly child care, extended duty day care("We've Got You Covered") and the *Strong Beginnings* Pre-Kindergarten program. May also include stand alone CDC annexes and satellite sites. Care is provided by trained staff and operations are subject to Department of Defense (DoD) Certification. (Child Development Center 74017).

Child Development (CD) Homes: (Ages 4 weeks-12 years) Offer full-day, part-day, hourly child care to include extended duty day, weekend care, 24-hour care as needed in government owned or leased housing designated for this purpose. Care for between 7 and 12 children is provided by two trained CYS employees. 24-hour care requires additional fire safety protection.

Family Child Care (FCC) Homes: (Ages 4 weeks-12 years) Offer full-day, part-day, and hourly child care to include extended duty day, weekend care, 24-hour care as needed in a home environment. Care for up to eight children (depending on mix of ages) is provided by trained, certified, and monitored Family Child Care Providers in their own homes (privately owned and government owned or leased housing) and is subject to DoD Certification.

School-Age (SA) Centers (aka Child Development Centers): (Ages 6-12 years) Offer before and after school programs, weekend activities during the school year, summer care and camps during school vacations. Care is provided by trained staff and operations are subject to DoD Certification. (School Age Center [Child Development Center ages 6-10] 74016).

Youth Centers (YCs): (Ages 11-18 years) The Youth Program offers comprehensive, supervised program options and affordable, quality, predictable services that are easily accessible for eligible youth in grades 7 through 12 (may include 6th grade depending on local school configuration) who are generally 11 – 18 years of age. This is achieved through a comprehensive Youth Program framework consisting of the Four Service Areas. Through formal partnership agreements with several nationally-recognized youth-serving organizations, such as United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), 4-H and Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA), youth have access to programs, standardized curricula, special events, camps, scholarships, etc., no matter where they live. Supervision and programming is provided by trained staff and operations are subject to DoD Certification. (Youth Center 74066).

- **VENTUREPOINT:** Offers options on-site in Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (Family and MWR) facilities. There are two components within *VENTUREPOINT* which include EDGE! and HIRED!.
 - The EDGE! Program provides children and youth ages 6-18 opportunities to Experience, Develop, Grow and Excel in various areas by participating in "cutting-edge" art, fitness, life skills and adventure activities. It offers a standardized framework, which consists of four broad interest area specific packages. The four packages are Art EDGE!, Fit EDGE!, Life EDGE! and Adventure EDGE!. Garrisons select at least two packages to be offered Monday through Friday in monthly increments. The EDGE! Program is a year round monthly program that runs for at least 48 weeks a year.
 - o The HIRED! Apprenticeship Program is a workforce-preparation and apprenticeship enterprise designed to meet the employment and career-exploration needs of Army teens 15-18 years of age. The goal of the HIRED! Apprenticeship Program is to help teens develop the necessary confidence and employer-valued abilities to succeed in today's competitive job market. Child, Youth & School (CYS) Services and Morale,

Welfare & Recreation (MWR) Partner Organizations have joined together to prepare teens for these rapidly-changing conditions. The HIRED! Apprenticeship Program provides a community-wide framework to help develop today's youth to become productive members of society.

Youth Sports & Fitness Programs: (Ages 3-18 years) Offer developmentally appropriate opportunities for children and youth to be engaged in individual and team sports, competitions, skill building clinics, and nutrition and health classes that foster development of life-long healthy habits. Provided by trained CYS employees and volunteer coaches in a variety of settings including Youth Centers, MWR Facilities, Schools, community fields and facilities. DODI 6060.4, AR-215-1, AR-608-10.

- Baseline Programming includes:
 - o Team Sports
 - Individual Sports
 - Fitness and Health
 - o Outreach
- Get Fit... Be Strong: A comprehensive health, fitness and wellness campaign in an effort to increase children and youth's physical activity and teach them healthy lifestyle techniques. The "Get Fit, Be Strong" initiative is executed in School Age Care (SAC), Middle-school/Teen Programs (MST), Child & Youth Sports & Fitness (CYSF) and Army Youth Programs in Your Neighborhood (AYPYN) Schools. All children and youth enrolled in SAC, MST, CYSF and AYPYN programs have daily opportunities to participate in self-directed and staff-facilitated physical fitness activities while earning recognition from the President's Challenge Physical Activity & Fitness Awards Program. CYS Services/AYPYN staff and parents will also be able to participate in this initiative, thus setting great examples and serving as role models for children and youth. IMCOM Operations Order 11-419.
- National Alliance for Youth Sports (NAYS): NAYS is the nation's leading youth sports educator and advocate with national programs that educate administrators, coaches, officials and parents about their roles and responsibilities in the context of youth sports, in addition to offering youth development programs for children. Since 1993, the National Alliance for Youth Sports has created a unique partnership to bring quality youth sports programs to children on military bases in CONUS and OCONUS locations. Through NAYS CYS offers; youth sports coaches certification, youth sports officials training services, parental sports education and marketing services, Start Smart Sports Development Program for Child Development Services, and on site and on-line educational forums on Army installations worldwide.

Parent and Outreach Services Programs

- Parent Central Services: (Ages 0-18 years) Offers registration, enrollment, records transfer, parent education classes, and babysitter training and referral services for Families. Includes CYS Parent Advisory Council, non-traditional outreach services, and Parents On Site volunteer program. Provides program information, sends eNews publications and messages and contributes to web sites of interest to parents.
- Kids On Site/Short Term Alternative Child Care: (Ages 6 weeks-12 years) Offers short term
 hourly child care for Families using/attending Command Sponsored events, e.g., Strong
 Bonds, Family Readiness Groups, Memorial Services, Yellow Ribbon Events etc. Provided
 by CYS employees in a variety of on and off post settings that may include Family and

Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities, Chapels, Armed Forces Recreation Centers, Hotels, Schools, Armories, etc. Parents remain on site or are immediately available in an adjacent facility.

- Kids At Home: (Ages 6 weeks-18 years) Offers non-traditional outreach services to support Families with children/youth whose primary care/educational setting is in their own home. Includes imAlone classes for enrolled children (11-15 years) whose parents have determined that they can be home alone during out of school hours, and Home School Services, e.g., use of CYS tech labs, multipurpose rooms, homework centers, instructional programs for educational purposes during school hours (when facilities are not in use) by children/youth who are home schooled and accompanied by their parents.
- Parents On Site/Parent Co-Ops: (Ages 6 weeks-12 years) Offer support services for the
 operation and management of parent co-ops that exchange babysitting services,
 infant/toddler playgroups, short term care in unit settings by Family members in one unit or
 organization for similar services at a future agreed upon time with Family members in
 another unit or organization. Care is provided by parents with CYS staff assistance and
 operations are subject to DoD Certification.
- CYSitters/Trained Babysitters: (Ages 6 weeks-12 years) Offer formal training for teens and adults who provide short term hourly child care in Families' own homes. Training covers skills needed to safely and appropriately care for children and includes First Aid and CPR, program activities and the "business" of babysitting. Trained CYSitters receive a certificate of completion and a wallet card and may be placed on the CYS Services' babysitter referral list at http://www.sittercity.com.
- SKIESUnlimited Instructional Program: (Ages 3-18 years) Offers range of out of school classes, e.g., music, dance, martial arts, gymnastics, technology, life skills, and SAT prep designed to complement, expand, and support the academic, life skills, and athletic experiences children and youth have within Army CYS Programs and Schools. Provided by CYS employees and contract instructors in a variety of settings which may include Child Development Centers, School Age Programs, MWR and Community Facilities and Schools.

Deployment Support Services

- Operation Military Kids (OMK): Operation: Military Kids is a collaborative outreach effort between many different organizations to build capacity in local communities to support military children and youth impacted by deployment and build resiliency during the reintegration process. OMK is funded through the Army National Guard and Army Reserve. National partners, (e.g., Army Recruiting command, Army Cadet Command, Military Entrance Processing Stations, 4-H, Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Military Child Education Coalition, the American Legion, Child Care Aware of America) provide support to geographically dispersed military families where they live. Programs and services are delivered by State Teams comprised of local representatives from the partner agencies listed above.
- Youth Technology Labs (YTLs): (Ages 6-18 years) Provide a safe, secure, and age appropriate place where children and youth can engage in technology-based activities and programs; both key to linking youth with their deployed parents and serving as a vital component of CYS Home Work Centers and Mobile Tech Labs that support geographically dispersed children and youth through Operation Military Kids.

- Operation Military Child Care (OMCC): Supports the child care needs of Active Duty, National Guard and Reserve Soldier parents who are mobilized or deployed. OMCC helps eligible Families locate child care options in local communities. Sites must be licensed and be inspected annually.
- Child Behavior Consultants: Provide on-site counselors in child and youth programs to offer non-medical, short term, situational, problem-solving counseling services to staff, parents, and children within CYS facilities, garrison schools and summer camps.
- Respite Child Care: Offers respite child care for parents to give them temporary relief from child rearing duties and allows them time to take care of personal business. Families are offered 16 hours per child, per month at no cost care beginning 30 days before Soldier is deployed and ending 90 days after Soldier returns.
- "We've Got You Covered:" Offers extended hours in designated CYS operations to ensure child care is available for enrolled full day children at no additional cost to Soldiers who have mission requirements beyond normal duty hours.
- ICYSmiles (aka "I See Your Smiles"): Offers separated Families and Soldiers opportunities
 to download and view video footage of their children participating in CYS Programs.
 Existing video surveillance systems in CYS Facilities allow Families to record video
 messages to send to absent loved ones.

Community Based Programs

- Mission Youth Outreach: (Ages6-18) Partnership between Army CYS and Boys & Girls Clubs of America providing children from families of reserve and active duty personnel with a free membership at their local Boys & Girls Club. Reserve, National Guard, and Active duty youth need to be able to connect with other youth in similar situations. The partnership delivers physical, emotional, social, and cultural programs for military youth living in civilian communities. Mission: Youth Outreach supports military kids coping with the stress of having a parent or parents deployed by creating a network of youth who can empathize and help them cope with their new world of being suddenly "military." Through a Joint Military Services initiative, military dependent children ages 6-18 can get pre-paid programs and services through their local Boys & Girls Clubs.
- Army Affiliated CYS Programs: (Ages 6 weeks-18 years) Offer Child Care and Youth Programs at rates comparable to the Garrison for Army Families living off-post in garrison catchment areas. Includes: Army Child Care in Your Neighborhood for children 6 weeks-5 years, Army School Age Programs in Your Neighborhood for children ages 6-12 years, and Army Youth Programs in Your Neighborhood for youth ages 13-18 years. Programs are centrally funded and managed through an Army enterprise contract with a Third Party Administrator that locates providers and administers the fee assistance program for parents using these services. Participating programs are generally in communities surrounding garrisons highly impacted by Army Transformation. Supplements, not replaces, Army operated on base Child and Youth Programs.
- Army Sponsored CYS Child Care Programs: (Ages 6 weeks-12 years) Offer child care for geographically dispersed Families where they reside. Includes Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood (MCCYN) for Active Component Families and Operation Military Child Care (OMCC) for Reserve Component Families throughout the ARFORGEN cycle. Also serves geographically dispersed Families of recruiters, ROTC, MEPCOM, and Corps of Engineers

that live beyond reasonable commuting distance of military bases. Programs are centrally funded and managed through an Army enterprise contract with a Third Party Administrator that locates providers and administers the fee assistance program for parents using these services. Participating programs are available in 50 states, Puerto Rico and Guam. Supplements, not replaces, Army operated on base child care.

School Support Services: (Grades K-12) The purpose of School Support Services is to reduce the conflict between military mission requirements and parental responsibilities related to K-12 education. School Support Services provides a variety of programmatic strategies and resources to achieve this mission and to support academic success and wellness for Army children and youth.

- School Liaison Officers (SLOs): Have strong educational backgrounds and are located on each Army garrison. SLOs provide support to Garrison Commanders, Army Families and school districts. SLOs advise garrison command staff on matters related to schools; assist Army Families with school issues; communicate information and support services to Army Families and schools; support Army Families during school transitions; collaborate with school districts to build positive relationships and address issues that impact Army students; facilitate training for parents, schools, and garrisons; foster reciprocal transition practices among school districts and increase school transition predictability for Army Families.
- Homeschool Support: Provided to Families who choose to homeschool their children. SLOs gather and share policies and resources to help these families overcome unique challenges and barriers.
- Homework Centers (K-12 grades): Create a safe and familiar before- and after-school academic support environment in school-age centers and youth centers.
- School Youth Sponsorship Programs: Ease school transitions in CONUS and OCONUS schools.
- Tutor.Com: (K-1st Yr College) Offers free, online tutoring services to dependent children of active duty Army personnel, dependent children of deployed Army National Guard personnel, dependent children of deployed Army Reserve personnel, dependent children of Army Wounded Warriors/Survivors, inactive/part-time Army National Guard personnel and their dependents and inactive/part-time Army.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON

IMWR-CY 6 Mar 2015

Child, Youth and School (CYS) Services Standards of Conduct and Accountability Standing Operating Procedures

- PURPOSE: To establish procedures outlining the Standards of Conduct and appropriate guidance, discipline, touching, and accountability of children and youth enrolled in CYS Services programs.
- SCOPE: This Standing Operating Procedure (SOP) applies to all persons, paid and non-paid (staff, Family Child Care (FCC)/Homes Off Post (HOP) Providers, contractors, and volunteers), in regular contact with children/youth (4 weeks to 18 years) enrolled in CYS Services programs.

3. REFERENCES:

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 608-10, Child Development Services, dtd 15 Jul 97
- b. AR 215-1 (Military Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Programs and Nonappropriated Fund Instrumentalities), dtd 24 Sep 10
 - c. Youth Services (YS) Memorandum of Instruction (MOI), dtd 30 Jun 90
 - d. AR 608-18, The Army Family Advocacy Program, dtd 30 May 06
- e. CFSC Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration, and Skills (SKIES) SOP Touch Policy, 15 Jul 03
- f. Secretary of the Army (SA) Memorandum, SUBJECT: Ensuring Adequate Supervision of Child, Youth and School Services (CYSS) Employees and Programs, dtd 8 Nov 13
 - g. AR 215-3, Nonappropriated Fund Personnel Policy, dtd 29 Aug 03
- 4. RESPONSIBILITIES: CYS Services managers will ensure that all persons in regular contact with children read this SOP and sign the Statement of Understanding and Acknowledgement of the Appropriate Guidance & Discipline, Touching, and Accountability of Children/Youth In CYS Services Programs SOP (encl 1).

a. CYS Services Coordinators will:

- (1) Actively supervise employees and ensure managers and trainers are monitoring and documenting observations on assigned personnel throughout all hours of CYS Services operation. This includes modifying their work schedules as needed to ensure a documented staff observation can be completed quarterly and includes nonroutine hours, the opening and closing of facilities, evening and weekends in FCC Homes when children are in care, SKIES classes, and Youth Sports Programs, and Kids on Site locations.
- (2) Ensure that in facilities where there are both a Director and Assistant Director, one opens and the other closes the facility.
- (3) Visit programs bi-weekly to ensure all prescribed risk management strategies to reduce the likelihood of institutional child abuse and neglect are understood and implemented by staff, providers, contractors, and volunteers. Coordinators with large programs may designate a Program Operations Specialist or Child/Youth Administrator to make one of the visits in a month.
- (4) Ensure all violations of standards of conduct are reviewed, and proper and swift action is taken to correct the conditions which contributed to the lapse in demonstrated competence.
- (5) Ensure all subordinate employees adhere to the guidance contained in this SOP.
- (6) Ensure that standards of conduct are included in management employee performance standards, and that the Statement of Understanding and Acknowledgement is reviewed and signed annually.
- (7) Fulfill their responsibility as mandated reporters to report suspected incidences of child abuse, including those due to inappropriate touch, discipline, or lack of supervision, to the Reporting Point of Contact (RPOC).
 - b. CYS Services Program Directors or Assistant Directors will:
- (1) Adjust work schedule at least one day per month, to monitor and observe during non-routine hours, the opening and closing of facilities, evening and weekends in FCC Homes when children are in care, SKIES classes, Sports & Fitness Programs and Kids on Site operations.
- (2) Ensure that standards of conduct are included in all staff annual employee performance standards.

- (3) Review alleged violations of Army Regulations governing CYS Services and report said violations to the RPOC.
- (4) Propose progressive disciplinary actions in coordination with Civilian Personnel Advisory Center's (CPAC) designated representatives, if warranted, after receipt of Chief, Department of Social Work's clinical assessment or case manager's assessment.
- (5) Remove any Child and Youth Program Assistant (CYPA), volunteer, or contractor from direct care and/or direct contact with children, and temporarily close the FCC Home if any inappropriate touch, discipline, or lack of supervision resulted in physical injury, potential injury (i.e., lifting a child by the arm or putting an infant to sleep on their stomach even if no injury occurred), or caused distress to a child, or inability to readily account for all of the children in care (i.e., child left alone in a room and no responsible adult knows where the child is).
 - (6) Ensure systems are in place for:
 - (a) appropriate staff sign in/out;
 - (b) hourly child "face to name" accountability procedures in Child Development Centers (CDCs);
 - (c) monitoring of all School Age children and Middle School/Teens while they independently move throughout the facility;
 - (d) maintaining specific accountability for each CDC child by one staff member (although staff work as a team to be accountable for all children, each staff member is assigned to monitor specific children, especially during times of transition. This does not mean that children must accompany their primary CYPA throughout the day, but staff are required to know the whereabouts of all assigned children);
 - (e) accounting for the whereabouts of all children at regular intervals, especially during periods of transition.
- (7) Fulfill their responsibility as mandated reporters to report all suspected incidences of child abuse, including those related to inappropriate touch, discipline, or lack of supervision to the RPOC.
 - c. CYPAs and FCC/HOP Providers will:
- (1) Immediately ensure the safety of any CDC, School Age Care (SAC) or FCC child found unattended.

- (2) Fulfill their responsibility as mandated reporters to report all suspected incidences of child abuse, including those related to inappropriate touch, discipline, or lack of supervision to the RPOC.
- (3) Advise CYPAs in other classrooms if he/she sees a child slipping away from or leaving his/her CDC primary care group.
- (4) Ensure accountability for all the children in their assigned group (CDC/FCC/HOP) especially at transition times such as going outside/inside.
- (5) Conduct written name to face counts once per hour (every 30 minutes for hourly care) and report any discrepancies to the Assistant Director or Director.
- 5. PROCEDURES: This SOP will be read by all CYS Services personnel to include paid staff, FCC/HOP providers, contractors, and volunteers and is incorporated into the New Employee Orientation training and annual Family Advocacy Program (FAP) Child Abuse Awareness, Identification and Reporting Training; and will be recorded on the employee's/provider's Individual Developmental Plan (IDP). The following procedures will be followed:
- a. **Guidance and Discipline**: Child guidance/discipline shall continue to be handled in the manner stated in AR 608-10. Helping a child to understand and decide what to do, rather than what not to do, is the basis for child guidance. Our role is to meet each child's individual needs, thereby helping them to become confident, secure individuals with good problem solving and thinking skills.
- (1) Children need to know the rules of their environment, the choices they are allowed to make, and the consequences of their choices or actions.
- (2) Children need to be taught the difference between the positive and negative consequences of their actions. For example, stop throwing the game pieces and be allowed to continue playing in the game area, or keep throwing the game pieces and be taken out of the game area.
- (3) Children need to be talked to after they have done something inappropriate. They need to know you care about them. The child needs to understand why their actions were not acceptable.
- (4) "I" messages should be used with children rather than "No" and "Don't" messages. Examples include "I like to see....,", "I think it would be better to..."
- (5) A child/youth should never be called "bad." It is not the child/youth who is bad, but the choices the child/youth made that were inappropriate. Children act out due to anger, frustration, or when problems in their environment exist, just as adults do. Children need to learn how to control these feelings, and to understand that these feelings are normal and not "bad."

- (6) Children need to learn the consequences of their actions, whether the outcomes are negative or positive. Through proper guidance, children learn how to become aware of their feelings and actions, and develop a better sense of self-control and an increased ability to make decisions and solve problems. Young children act/react before they think, but as the intellectual development process progresses, children learn to think before they act. This is why when a young child is asked why he or she did something wrong, he or she may chose not to answer or say "I don't know." They actually don't know, because they simply "reacted." As CYS Services employees and providers, our work is to support and encourage children to think before they act or make a decision this is problem solving.
- (7) Discipline will be constructive in nature, including such methods as separation of the child from the situation by redirection, and praise of appropriate behaviors. When a child is acting out or engaged in a tantrum to a degree that the safety of the child or another person is a concern, staff will call for assistance, remove any other children from the area, move any furniture or equipment that could pose a hazard, and remain with the child until he/she calms sufficiently to allow an adult to provide comfort.
- (8) Appropriate discipline techniques with children focuses on guiding, teaching, and supporting children with their problem solving techniques.
- (9) Corporal/physical punishment is never an acceptable form of discipline and is not allowed. Discipline will never be punitive in nature. No CYS Services employees, FCC/HOP provider, contractors, or volunteer has the right or authority to punish a child at any time for any reason.
- (10) A child may not be punished by spanking, pinching, shaking, or other corporal punishment; isolation, confinement in closets, boxes, or similar places; binding to restrain movement of the mouth or limbs; humiliation or verbal abuse; deprivation of meals, snacks, outdoor play opportunities, or other program components, such as a long-term restriction of the use of specific play materials and equipment, or participation in a specific activity. Short-term restrictions are permissible to ensure the safety of others or as part of the strategy to help the child learn self-control.
 - (11) A child may not be punished for lapses in toilet training or for refusing food.
- b. **Touch**: The CYS Services Touch Policy is in accordance with AR 608-10. This policy has been developed to define the boundaries for appropriate and inappropriate touching of children and youth. Positive physical contact is an integral part of a developmental and age-appropriate approach to children. Positive physical contact is essential to the emotional and social growth of children. It is important for paid and non-paid staff and providers to clearly understand the difference between a child's need for appropriate physical contact in nurturing and guidance, and touches that infringe on their safety and well-being. Adults involved with children as CYPAs, instructors,

coaches, mentors, etc., must be mindful of the need to respect the personal space and privacy of children. Boundaries for appropriate and inappropriate touching are established to ensure that CYS Services employees, FCC/HOP providers, contractors, and volunteers have a clear understanding of what is acceptable and what is not.

- (1) Appropriate touching is positive physical contact that nurtures children and youth and develops a sense of trust and emotional security in their interaction with adults.
 - (a) Appropriate touching involves recognizing the importance of physical contact to nurturing guidance; adult respect for personal privacy; personal space of children and youth; responses affecting the safety and well-being of the child; and CYS Services employees, FCC/HOP providers, contractors, and volunteers modeling appropriate touching.
 - (b) Appropriate touching includes hugs, reassuring touches on the shoulder, and touches expressively appropriate to instruction, such as those instances where hands-on guidance is needed. For example, appropriate touching may include swimming instruction, where one might require a steadying hand on the back; voice instruction, where one might require a hand placed above the diaphragm; or gymnastics instruction, where one might require steadying hands on the trunk of the body.
 - (c) Touching may be necessary to ensure the safety of children and may include restraining a child gently but firmly during a temper tantrum or holding a hand while crossing the street.
 - (d) Staff may touch the genital areas of a child in a manner and the degree necessary to diaper and/or assist the child in proper toilet procedures. Should a CDC/FCC child's genital area need to be checked for reasons other than diapering/toileting (i.e., injury, child complaint) another staff member will be present as a witness. In such instances, the attendant staff member should be of the same gender as the child, if available on site. The complaint/injury must then be documented, signed by the staff/adult, and discussed with parents by the Program Manager.
 - (e) Appropriate touching, such as hugging, appropriate hand holding, the rocking of infants, or assisting in physical activities relating to instruction will occur in the normal interaction of staff and children. However, children's preferences for these types of contact will be considered. Whenever possible, the child will be asked before touching. For example, ask the child if they would like a hug instead of just hugging him/her. Tell children before handling what you have to do. Some examples include "I'm going to change your diaper now," "I'm going to help you get dressed," or "I'm going to move you to a quiet area."

- (f) The type and degree of physical contact between the staff/adult and child may not violate legal or moral standards of society. The physical contact may not be against the desires of the child unless circumstances for the good of the child warrant the physical contact despite the child's wishes.
- (2) <u>Inappropriate touching</u> may include coercion or other forms of exploitation of children and youth; satisfaction of adult needs at the expense of the child; attempts to change child behavior with physical force; or any physical contact that is in violation of the law and cultural norms.
 - (a) Inappropriate touching includes, but is not limited to, corporal punishment, forced good-bye kisses, slapping, striking, pinching, prolonged tickling or fondling, and molestation.
 - (b) Any physical contact, within reason, that the child or youth describes as making them feel uncomfortable.
 - (c) Touching should never be punitive or corporal in nature. Actions such as squeezing, twisting, pulling, jerking of limbs; or squeezing of a child's face, as in an attempt to get or keep the child's attention, are not permitted.
 - (d) Physical restraint will not be used unless it is absolutely necessary to prevent injury to the adult or child. Follow the guidance in paragraph 5.a.(7) when temper tantrums occur. If restraint is used as a last resort to prevent injury to the child or others, employees/providers will provide a written description of why physical restraint was necessary. Witnesses, if any were present, will sign a written incident report and provide to the Assistant Director or Director. A copy should be kept in the child's file. Parents will be informed immediately telephonically and in writing of how and why physical restraint was used on their child/youth.
 - (e) Inappropriate touching will be grounds of immediate closure of the FCC/HOP home or reassignment of a CYS Services employee, contractor, or volunteer to non-child conduct positions until the investigation is completed.
- c. Accountability: The importance of child accountability cannot be stressed enough. The primary CYS Services concern is for the health and well-being of the children/youth in our care. CDC staff and FCC/HOP Providers are responsible for the accountability of the children in their rooms/homes at all times. Staff working with school-age children are responsible for keeping track of them as they move throughout the building. Staff working with middle school-age children and teens are responsible for monitoring their whereabouts while participating in activities. Special care must be taken to ensure accountability when children/youth are participating on a field trip outside of the facility/home.

- (1) In a CDC or self-contained school age program (children are placed in one classroom), a face-to-name count of children will be conducted once per hour by an Assistant Director or Supervisory Program Specialist who physically visits each classroom to verify the staff-to-child ratio. The use of the intercom or telephone will not be used as an alternative to physically visiting each classroom. The physical count of children must match the Child and Youth Management System (CYMS) roster of children "swiped" into the facility.
- (2) CDC CYPAs are accountable for the children assigned to their care and will conduct a face-to-name count by comparing the names on the sign-in sheet with each child in the room. If a child is not listed on the sign-in sheet, add their name to the sheet. If a name is on the sign-in sheet, but the child cannot be found, contact the front desk immediately. DO NOT just count the number of children on the sign-in sheet and the number of children in the room.
- (3) If a CDC child is on a playground and a CYPA from another module sees a child who does not enter the CYS facility with his or her designated group, that CYPA must get the attention of the child's primary CYPA to let him/her know the child requires his/her supervision. Although incidences such as this are a failure on the part of the CYPA to maintain child accountability, this does <u>not</u> mean the child has been left unattended. CYPAs will assist each other as needed regarding supervision responsibilities.
- (4) In a School Age Care Center where children move independently, the program director, assistant director, or supervisory program specialist will conduct an hourly verification between the system that is used to monitor the whereabouts of children such as a "Choice Board" and the number of children swiped into CYMS. School Age children are not required to sign in/out of each room.
- (5) Because Middle School and Teen youth may choose to enter or leave the facility at will, an hourly validation of the number of youth in the building will be conducted in order to ensure proper staffing and to be able to know, in an event of an emergency, that all youth evacuated the building.
- (6) As appropriate per program, a face-to-name count will also be taken before, during, and after transitions to and from the playground, to and from field trips, while getting on and off busses, and during any transition between CDC rooms.
- (7) Loss of accountability of a child/youth is a direct violation of AR 608-10, 5-17c, which states "visual supervision of all children must be maintained at all time. No child will be left unattended at any time indoors or outdoors, asleep or awake." If this occurs, appropriate disciplinary action will be taken against all responsible staff members.
- (8) Each incident resulting in a lack of a child/youth supervision that would not be considered by a reasonable person as child neglect will be reviewed individually, but

disciplinary actions will remain consistent. AR 215-3, Table 7-1 (Penalties for delinquency or misconduct), AR 690-700, Chapter 751, Table 1-1 (Table of Penalties for Various Offenses) will be used as a guide. Penalties may range from a letter of reprimand up to separation. FCC/HOP providers are subject to suspension or revocation of certification.

- (9) Incidents resulting in a lack of supervision of a child/youth that a reasonable person would view as child neglect, such as a FCC/HOP Provider leaving children alone while going shopping or a CYPA closing a room and going home when a child is left in the room, will immediately be reported to the RPOC.
- (10) There is very little room for excuses or blame. Being a "team player" does not mean not reporting or covering up incidents. No one will cover up or fail to report a lack of supervision incident. CYS Services employees, providers, contractors, and volunteers will bring all incidents in question to the Program Director's attention immediately.
- 6. CONCLUSION: Both understanding and adherence to the established procedures are vital to the operations of the CYS Services programs. All CYS Services employees, to include managers, trainers, cooks, custodial, clerical, and CYPAs, in addition to FCC/HOP Providers, contractors, and volunteers, will sign the CYS Services Statement of Understanding and Acknowledgement of Touch/Discipline/Child Accountability Policy.

Encls

CHERRI L. VERSCHRAESEN
Chief, Child, Youth and School Services







Child Youth and School Services (CYSS) Parent Participation Program

FACT

Parents are the first and most influential teachers in their child's life.

Research shows the single most important factor that determines a child success in school and throughout life is parent or family involvement. Parental involvement refers to the amount of participation a parent (e.g. sponsor or legal guardian) has in a child's schooling.

Parents are an indispensible and a valuable resource. The Military Child Care Act requires the establishment of a parent participation program at each DoD installation. CYS Services view parents as assets rather than liabilities because of the level of knowledge and expertise they possess. As parents, they have firsthand knowledge of their own children's strength and weakness, as patrons they have firsthand experience with CYS Services programs.

A GREAT OPPORTUNITY!

CYS Services Parent Participation Program provides parents an excellent opportunity to share their unique gifts, talents and abilities while volunteering in regularly scheduled programs (e.g. full day, part day, before and/or after school). While participating in meaningful activities, parents not only positively influence the lives of military children but also CYS Services program operations on their installations. Parent involvement is a win-win for everyone!

BENFITS TO PARENT, CHILDREN AND COMMUNITIES:

Parents:

- Cost Savings-10% reduction on one month's child care fees
- · Convenient- opportunities that fit each individual family's lifestyle
- Your Voice- active in improving policies and quality programming
- Knowledge enrichment -understand learning environments

Child/Youth:

- Positive attitude and behavior
- Strengthens sense of belonging/family unit
- · Higher academic achievement
- · Higher graduation rates; and
- Higher enrollment in postsecondary education

CYS Programs and Communities:

- Improves staff/parent communication and morale
- · Reinforces the safety of child youth
- Sponsorship among families
- Enhance Soldier and Family resilience and readiness

Interested parents, guardians, and military organizations (e.g. family readiness group) should contact their earest installation's Parent Central Services office or CYS Services Program Director. Visit http://www.myarmyonesource.com for additional CYS program information.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

U.S. ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND, PACIFIC REGION HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON, HAWAII 745 WRIGHT AVENUE, BUILDING 107, WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD SCHOFIELD BARRACKS, HAWAII 96857-5000

IMHW-ZA

AUG 2 6 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR All Military Personnel and Department of Defense Civilian Employees within United States Army Installations in Hawaii

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum USAG-HI-12 Child Supervision Policy for Army Installations in Hawaii

1. References:

- a. Army Regulation (AR) 608-18, The Army Family Advocacy Program (FAP),
 30 Oct 07.
 - b. AR 608-75, Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), 22 Nov 06.
 - c. AR 608-10, Child Development Services, 15 Jul 97.
- Applicability. This policy applies to all Soldiers, Family Members and sponsored individuals within U.S. Army Installations in Hawaii.
- 3. Parents are ultimately responsible for the welfare and actions of their children. Parents must use sound judgment and consider the physical, emotional, and psychological maturity of their children when determining the level of supervision their children require. Failure to exercise those parental responsibilities may constitute child neglect.
- 4. Children who meet the criteria for the EFMP (as defined by AR 608-75) require special levels of supervision. These guidelines for supervision and babysitting are to be modified in accordance with their special needs. Parents must consult with their primary care physician to determine the appropriate level of supervision. Parents should not give the degree of self-management and responsibility allowed in this guidance to children with special needs.
- Primary child supervision guidelines. (See enclosure 1 for a matrix of these guidelines.)
- a. Children less than 10 years old cannot be left unsupervised at bus stops, public facilities, residences, in vehicles or recreational areas, and cannot walk to school alone.
- b. Children, 10-11 years old, may be left alone up to four hours in a 24-hour period, but not overnight (0100-0500 daily).

IMHW-ZA

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum USAG-HI-12, Child Supervision Policy for Army Installations in Hawaii

- c. Children age 12-13 years old, may babysit their siblings or children other than siblings (age two years old and above) for up to six hours if they have ready access to adult supervision, but not overnight. Child, Youth and School (CYS) Services babysitting training is offered free of charge, call Parent Central Services at 655-5314/8380. The American Red Cross offers certification at the individual's expense. Children must be 13 years old or older to be registered on the CYS Services Sitters Referral List.
- d. Children, 14-15 years old may babysit their siblings or children other than siblings for up to eight hours if they have ready access to adult supervision but not overnight.
- e. Children, 16-18 years old or older, may be left alone (self-monitored care) for up to 48 hours. Minors will have telephone access to an adult in case of emergency.
- The USAG-HI curfew policy is as follows:
- a. Children 13 years of age and younger will be inside their own or someone else's Island Palm Communities (IPC) quarters between 2100 and 0600 unless they are under the direct supervision of a parent, guardian, or Family Member 18 years of age or older.
- b. Children 14-17 years of age will be inside their own or someone else's IPC quarters between 2200 and 0530 unless they are under the supervision of a parent, guardian, or Family Member 18 years of age or older.
- c. All dependent children and/or Family Members ages 10-17 years of age must have their military issued dependent ID card in their possession at all times while outside IPC housing unless they are under the supervision of a parent, guardian, or Family Member 18 years of age or older.
- d. Exceptions to the above curfew hours are returning home from a community facility, an installation activity, a Youth Center program, or paid employment.
- Parents or a designated appropriate caregiver must be present at CYS Services activities.
- 8. Within the Hawaii Army community, personnel leaving children unsupervised should be referred to the military police. Reports of possible neglect will be addressed to the military police in the Schofield Barracks community at 655-5555/7114 or in the Fort Shafter community at 438-7114. Parents will comply with all State of Hawaii and Federal laws pertaining to child safety and well-being.

IMHW-ZA

SUBJECT: Policy Memorandum USAG-HI-12, Child Supervision Policy for Army Installations in Hawaii

- 9. This policy memorandum supersedes Policy Memorandum USAG-HI-34, SAB, dated 19 May 14 and remains in effect until cancelled or superseded in writing.
- 10. Point of contact is the Army Community Service, FAP Manager at 655-4227/4778 or the CYS Services Coordinator at 656-0092.

Encl

Child Supv Guideline Matrix

STEPHEN E. DAWSON

COL, SC

Commanding

DISTRIBUTION Electronic Media

Table 1: USAG-Hawaii Child-Supervision Guideline Matrix						
Age of Child	May Be Left Alone at Home	May Be Left Alone Overnight	May Be Left Outside Unattended (Including Playing)	May Be Left Unattended in a Car	May Babysit Siblings	May Babysit Others (Besides Siblings)
Newborn to age 6	No	No	No	No	No	No
6-9 year-old	No. Children less than ten years-old will not be left unsupervised at bus stops, public facilities, residencees, in vehicles or recreational areas and cannot walk to school unsupervised.		Yes, if in a playground or year with immediate access to adult supervision (notes 2 and 3).	No	No	No
10-11 year-old	Yes, not more than four hours in a 24 hour period (not overnight) with ready access to adult supervision (notes 2, 3, 4, and 6).	No	Yes, in a playgound within 10 minutes walking distance from the residence. Parent must physically see child every hour (notes 1, 2, 3, and 4).	Yes, up to 15 minutes if the keys have been removed and the handbrake applied (notes 1 and 2).	No	No
12-13 year-old	Yes, for up to 6 hours in a 24-hour period (but not overnight) with ready access to adult supervision (notes 2, 3, and 4).	No	Yes, for up to 6 hours with ready access to an adult (notes 1, 2, 3, and 4).	Yes	Yes, for up to 6 hours with ready access to an adult (notes 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 7). Siblings must be over two years-old.	Yes, for up to 6 hours with ready access to an adult (notes 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 7). Non- siblings must be over two-years old.
14-15 year-old	Yes, up to eight hours, but non overnight (note 2).	No	Yes	Yes	Yes, for up to 8 hours (but not overnight) with ready access to an adult (notes 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 7).	Yes, for up to 8 hours (but not overnight) with ready access to an adult (notes 1,2,3,4,5,6 and 7). Non-siblings must be over two-years old.
16-18 year-old	Yes (note 2).	Yes, for up to 48 hours. Minors will have telephone access to an adult in case of emergency (note 2).	Yes	Yes	Yes (notes 1,2,3, and 7).	Yes (notes 1,2,3, and 7).

Notes:

- 1. Parents must make an informed choice (for example, regarding weather, potential hazards, or amount of time).
- 2. Parents are responsible for assessing the individual capabilities of their children. Questions to consider may include "can your child solve problems independently?" "Does your child think through the consequences before chossing to behave in a certain way?" "How does your child occupy him/herself when left with free time?"
- 3. Adult supervision is defined as "someone who has or assumes responsibility for the child (for example, a parent, guardian, care provider, friend)."
- 4. Ready access is defined as "at a minimum, telephone access and telephone number of each person designated as adult supervision," (must be readily available physically if needed to respond)
- 5. Children less than sixteen years-old cannot provide care in an overnight situation (0100-0500). An older child or adult must be in the home to provide care from 0100-0500 hours.
- 6. Home-alone training by ACS, Child, Youth & School Services or other sources in strongly recommended.
- 7. Child, Youth & School Services babysitting and CPR/First Aid training is required to babysit.