



ARMY FAMILY ACTION PLAN



"AFAP...Changing the Army One Issue at a Time"

16-17 February 2011



Workgroup Briefings

Army Family Action Plan...
Changing the Army One Issue at a Time



Work Group: Teens

Spokesperson: Kayla O'Neil



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TITLE: Shuttle Service on Saturday

SCOPE: There is no shuttle service on the weekends to or from movies at the post theater. Current TMP schedule is only Monday through Friday. Teens are not able to get on post to go to the movies on Saturday.

RECOMMENDATION:

Run the shuttle service on Saturdays after movie showing.



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TITLE: Heated and Covered Pool

SCOPE: The pool can't be used during the winter. It is only open from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Not having the pool limits the activities available during the winter months.

RECOMMENDATION:

Cover and heat the pool so it can be used year-round.



Work Group: Benefits and Entitlements

Spokesperson: SrA Robert Watkins



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TITLE: Job Opportunities for Qualified Dependents and US Citizens

SCOPE: There are positions that are coded US that are being filled by Local Nationals due to lack of qualified dependents. These positions are not re-opened to Qualified Dependents and US Citizens and are not re-announced in a central, public location to provide Qualified Dependents and US Citizens opportunity to apply. Failure to re-open these positions lessens job opportunities for Qualified Dependents and US Citizens.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Positions that are coded US should have a not-to-exceed date to ensure positions are re-offered to Qualified Dependents and US Citizens.
2. Mandate employers request a new applicant list.
3. List all available employment opportunities on a central location such as USAG web site.



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TITLE: Mandatory COLA Survey Participation

SCOPE: Poor participation in COLA survey at small installations creates inaccurate results, leading to insufficient COLA rates. Smaller installations have limited services, hours, and inventory, forcing individuals to purchase more on the economy. Inaccurate COLA rates do not offset higher prices of goods and services purchased on the economy.

RECOMMENDATION: Make survey participation mandatory for military members and civilians receiving COLA.



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TITLE: Young Adult Work Study / Intern Program

SCOPE: Camp Darby does not offer young adults the opportunity for internship or work experience. Internships and work experience round out a college application and prepare young adults for a successful adulthood. There are currently no organized programs for young adults and only limited seasonal job opportunities. This diminishes the marketability of young adults with regard to college and future employment.

RECOMMENDATION: Create a comprehensive program tailored to the needs of young adults, to include a list of objectives, performance evaluations and completion certificates in order to develop interpersonal and professional skills as future leaders.



Work Group: Consumer Services

Spokesperson: SSG Brian Tierce



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TITLE: AAFES Inventory and Special Order Process at Smaller, OCONUS Installations

SCOPE: AAFES stocks items in the exchange based on a mandatory stock list, rather than by customer supported demand. Therefore, customers at smaller, OCONUS installations are forced to purchase needed items on the local economy at a substantially higher cost or special order items. There is no accountability / visibility within the customer service system for special order items so special orders are not being received in a timely manner or not at all. Unavailability of certain AAFES items creates a significant financial burden on smaller, OCONUS installation customers.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Conduct semi-annual survey of local AAFES inventory.
2. Implement a trackable inter-store ordering process.



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TITLE: Determination of OCONUS Child Care Fees

SCOPE: OCONUS childcare fees are higher than CONUS. BAS and BAH for military personnel are used in determining income for childcare costs. Using these entitlements results in inflated prices, which can cause unnecessary financial hardship to families.

RECOMMENDATION: Exclude BAS and BAH for military in determining OCONUS child care fees.



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TITLE: Lack of Dining Options

SCOPE: Existing dining facilities on Camp Darby have limited hours of operation. No facilities are open on Sundays until after 5pm, so community members have nowhere to go to enjoy a meal. Meals currently offered are unhealthy and overpriced. Unhealthy, over priced food items and limited hours of operation adversely affect health and morale.

RECOMMENDATION: Establish a Military Dining Facility or similar facility on Camp Darby that is open on Sundays, offering a variety of healthy food options at reasonable prices.



Work Group: Family Support

Spokesperson: TSgt Raymond Lego



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TITLE: Inadequate, Delayed Repairs in Government Leased Housing

SCOPE: Repairs in Government leased housing are untimely and not fixed properly. Inadequate repair results in multiple calls for one issue. Technicians fail to respond within scheduled time frames. Incomplete and inadequate repair jobs cause stress for Service Members and their families.

RECOMMENDATION: Enforce established contract and amend future contracts to include appropriate time frames and standards for repairs.



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TITLE: Lack of Appeal Process at Installation Level for Denial of AER Loans /Grants

SCOPE: There is no appeal process at installation level for denied grant/loan applicants. Denials are based solely on the discretion of the AER officer. Applicant denied AER funds are financially and emotionally affected.

RECOMMENDATION: Mandate an automatic secondary review at installation level of all denied AER applications to the next higher reviewing authority.



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TITLE: Spouse Support Network

SCOPE: There is a scarcity of community spousal support at Camp Darby. The absence of a combined community calendar prevents spouses from being fully engaged as community members. Multiple complaints and dissatisfaction with new assignment are evident amongst spouses and their families. This discontentment and dissatisfaction leads to feelings of isolation and lack of belonging in the Camp Darby community and affects the duty performance of the service member, the well being of the family unit, and the morale of the community.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Initiate a spousal support group to orient families to the positive aspects of the community.
2. Publish a complete and combined Camp Darby community calendar monthly to encourage individuals to be more actively involved in their new home.



5 Most Valuable Services



1. Medical and Dental
2. Commissary
3. Housing
4. DOD Schools
5. Post Exchange



Critical 6 Active AFAP Issues



1. Childcare Fee Category
2. Convicted Sex Offender Registry OCONUS
3. Family Member Eyeglass Coverage
4. Federal Hiring Process for Wounded Warriors
5. Shortages of Medical Providers in Military Treatment Facilities (MTF)
6. Medical Entitlements for College Age Family Members



Top 3 Conference Issues



1. Mandatory COLA Survey Participation
2. AAFES Inventory and Special Order Process at Smaller, OCONUS Installations
3. Job Opportunities for Qualified Dependents and US Citizens



Thank You

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