Child and Youth Programs

Brief to DACOWITS

Agency

27 August 2015

CYP Response to DACOWITS

- **The Committee remains interested in quality of life and family issues impacting servicewomen, specifically regarding sufficient access to child care.**

- **Explain the process to become an in-home child care provider for the military via the In-Home Child Care Provider Accreditation System/Program?**

Marine Corps installation Child & Youth Programs (CYP) may operate a Family Child Care (FCC) Program with compliance of the following requirements: Background Checks, Fire, Safety and Environmental Health, Adequate Space; Appropriate Ratios; Written Policies; Emergency Procedures; Parent Communication and consistent monitoring. Perspective providers apply with the installation FCC Office with the understanding that a background check will be conducted on all adult household members, along with reference checks. The potential FCC home is inspected by Subject Matter Experts in Fire, Safety, Health, and Early Childhood Specialists. The prospective FCC Provider must develop written policies, emergency procedures, obtain child care insurance, receive initial CYP orientation, training, and resources to be used in the daily operations of the program. A list of training is provided on slide 5.

The above information is then forwarded to the Quality Review Board (QRB) for review, approval or disapproval. The QRB is the installation mechanism for FCC certification, denial and revocation. If approved, the Installation Commander (or representative) certifies the installation FCC home. The QRB also provides support and overview of FCC homes with the FCC monitor providing continuous oversight and monitoring. The FCC monitor will ensure the home is in continuous compliance and maintains eligibility requirements.

Installation FCC Programs are inspected annually by a Higher Headquarters inspection team. Programs are required to correct any policy deficiencies through the Corrective Action Process. Upon approval of the installation commander, a DoD Certificate to Operate will be issued.

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- **What is the average length of time it takes to initially become a provider?**

2-3 months (depending on background check adjudication).

- **Are the certifications reciprocal across state lines and between Services/installations?**

The FCC Certificate to operate is for the installation based home in which the provider is currently living. Upon relocating to a new installation, the FCC Provider must apply through the FCC Director. FCC Providers must meet specified DoD and USMC policy requirements; in addition to installation based requirements that may be imposed on the FCC Program.

- **Are there differences between CONUS and OCONUS providers' certification, if any?**

From a HQ policy perspective there are no differences; however, installations may have additional requirements for the FCC Provider to meet/maintain.

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- **What are the different levels of certification? How long does it take to achieve each level? [Especially the extended day child care providers.]**

All FCC homes are certified by the installation CYP (FCC). Typically this is called an FCC License to operate. Each FCC Program at each installation will be certified through Higher Headquarters Unannounced Inspection process which will result in a DoD Certificate to Operate. FCC Homes are encouraged, not mandated, to obtain an external FCC accreditation certificate.

- **How many in-home military spouse providers are there currently?**

There are 121 FCC Provider (homes) across the Marine Corps CYP. Currently 9 out of 14 Marine Corps installations operate a FCC Program.
*May 2015 quarterly report

- **What percentage of in-home providers currently have an extended stay qualification?**

This service is offered as needed/per request across USMC CYP (FCC).

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- **What training and resources are provided? Are they the same across the Services/installations?**

All Marine Corps CYP FCC providers complete standardized 40 hours of orientation. Orientation begins prior to working with children and includes, but is not limited to:
Working with children of different ages, including developmentally appropriate activities, lesson plans, ages and stages and environmental observations
Position responsibilities and performance standards specific for the Professional's position
Age appropriate positive guidance and discipline techniques
Appropriate Guidance and Appropriate Touch, Accountability and Child Supervision
Fire prevention, protection and emergency evacuation
Child abuse prevention, identification, reporting procedures
Communicable diseases, hygiene, hand washing and sanitation
Parent and family relations
Proper diapering procedures
Administering medication
Health and sanitation procedures, including blood-borne pathogens, occupational health hazards
Emergency procedures
Safe infant sleep practices and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) prevention, Infant and child (pediatric) CPR and First Aid
Nutrition, obesity prevention, meal service, and family style dining. (A food handler's card is acquired during this period if required by local regulations)
Inclusion
Locally determined and program appropriate Marine Corps regulations, local instructions, policies and procedures
Visitor requirements and child sign-in and sign-out procedures
Facility control to include but not limited to inspecting the grounds and securing the facility
Business operations
DoD and USMC approved Functional Area modules (15) for Early Childhood, School Age and Youth CYP Professionals

Questions?