



Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense

## Military Community & Family Policy

# Update on DoD Child Care Efforts

C. Eddy Mentzer

Associate Director for Children, Youth, and Families

Office of Military Family Readiness Policy

Quality of life policies and programs that help our guardians of country, their families and survivors be well and mission ready.



# Child Care is a Work Force Issue

- **Supports the Total Force Working Family**
- **Affordability – Quality - Availability**
- **Types & Options for Care**
- **Continuity across the Department**



# Supporting the Total Force Working Family

- **Child Care is a National Issue**
- **Priority for Care**
- **Staffing**



Quality of life policies and programs that help our guardians of country, their families and survivors be well and mission ready.

# Types & Options for Care

- **How do we provide care?**
- **What options exist for families?**
- **Child Care for Infants**
- **Supporting the Reserve Component**



# Affordability – Quality - Availability

- **Shared cost between the Department and the family**
- **Efforts to increase and maintain quality**
- **Off-installation fee assistance**



# Continuity Across the Department

- **Military Child Care . com**
- **Inspection Management System**
- **Virtual Laboratory School**
- **Early Learning Matters**



# Useful Links/Questions

- <https://militarychildcare.com/> (Military Child Care.com)
- <https://www.virtuallabschool.org/> (Virtual Lab School)
- <https://militaryfamilies.psu.edu/> (Clearinghouse for Military Family Readiness)
  - <https://5210.psu.edu/> (5210 Healthy Military Children)
  - <https://thrive.psu.edu/> (THRIVE Universal Parenting Program)
- <https://www.militaryreach.auburn.edu/#/> (Military REACH)

