



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
US ARMY INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT COMMAND
IMCOM DIRECTORATE - TRAINING
1 KARKER STREET, MCGINNIS-WICKAM HALL
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905-5000

AMIM-BEW-A (608)

4 April 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR Garrison Commander, Fort Benning, GA 31905

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Fort Benning Garrison Community Leaders Information Forum

1. The Fort Benning Garrison Community Leaders Information Forum (CLIF) panel convened at 1030 on 4 April 2023 via Facebook Live from the Army Community Service (ACS) Auditorium, Building 7.

2. Panel Members Present:

COL Colin Mahle
CSM Michael Sanchez
Ms. Patricia Lamson-Poeschel

SGM Nicole Brannan

LTC Deborah Sartori

Mr. Stephen Paquette

Mr. Tim Hall
Mr. Jason Maxfield
Ms. Stacy White
Ms. Christina Shively

Garrison Commander
Garrison Command Sergeant Major
Deputy, Directorate of Family and Morale,
Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR)
Sergeant Major, Directorate of Emergency
Services (DES)
Interim Deputy Commander for Nursing, Martin
Army Community Hospital (MACH)
Director of Religious Education, Religious
Support Office (RSO)
Store Manager, AAFES
Marketing Manager, The Villages of Benning
Store Manager, DeCA
Center Operations and Programs Manager,
USO Georgia

3. The CLIF panel and briefers provided valuable information for senior spouses/leaders to share with their units. Today's topic: National Awareness Month.

4. Community Calendar Update. Ms. Sheri Peters highlighted upcoming events from the Community Calendar. (See enclosure) For more information visit <https://mec.high.powerappsportals.us/community-calendar/> and MWR Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/BenningFMWRfans/> to find additional community events and graduations.

5. COL Mahle and CSM Sanchez kicked off April's CLIF with a proclamation signing for

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Autism Acceptance and Awareness Month with guest speaker Ms. Diane Pope. The proclamation signing celebrates the achievements of neurodiverse people everywhere and champions the equal rights and dignity of all those on the autism spectrum.

6. Community Forum:

a. Child Abuse Prevention Month (CAPM) – Ms. Theresa Sanchez briefed that the Army Community Service (ACS) Family Advocacy Program (FAP) takes this opportunity to ramp up everyday efforts of raising awareness of programs and services available for Families. We believe child abuse is preventable through education and conversations about what it is, the signs, and how we report it before an incident or crisis happens. FAP services include seminars, workshops, counseling, and intervention to help strengthen Army Families, enhance resiliency and relationship skills, and improve quality of life. Additional programs within the FAP help with specific needs: New Parent Support Program (NPSP) and Victim Advocacy Program (VAP). Check out the MWR Website and Facebook page for upcoming events and training for April, like on 18 April is Wear Blue Day! Wear your Blue in support of CAPM. Visit FAP in Building 36, Lewis Hall, on the first floor, or call (706) 545-7233.

b. Autism Acceptance and Awareness Month - Ms. Karoushia Jordan briefed that the theme for Fort Benning's Autism Acceptance and Awareness Month is "Be Kind." Ensure to "Be Kind" and highlight the need for acceptance, inclusion, and connections that support people on the autism spectrum throughout life's journey. There are scheduled events throughout April specifically for EFMs, such as Sensory Friendly Sundays at Chuck E. Cheese and Special Connections Social events. Ms. Diane Pope, President of the Autism Hope Center, briefed that it was created in 2005 as a 501c(3) non-profit to serve Families in the Chattahoochee Valley area living with autism. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention released updated findings, 1 in 36 8-year-old children are diagnosed with an autism spectrum disorder. The Center's mission is to provide free information and programs to improve the lives of children and Families affected by autism. Some programs and services provided are Information and Referral Services, training for parents, teachers, therapy providers, those living with autism, support groups for caregivers, Annual Autism Resource Fair and Family Day, autism training for first responders, social and sensory friendly activities and legislative advocacy. On 29 April is the 8th Annual Autism Resource Fair and Family Day is 29 April 1000 - 1300 at Cascade Hills Church. For more information, contact (706) 604-6333 or email: autismhopecenterLLP@gmail.com.

c. Financial Capability Month – Ms. Karoline Garcia briefed that we recognize National Financial Capability Month this month. Financial Capability is making sound money decisions daily through life's significant events and challenges. In 2000, the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) introduced "Youth Financial Literacy Day," determining that personal financial management skills and life-long habits develop during childhood. Fort Benning Financial Readiness Program (FRP) conducts classes, briefings and outreach events designed to educate service members, their spouses & Families about the financial basics to increase personal economic security. Take the Financial Well-Being Assessment at <https://finred.usalearning.gov/FWBA/DigitalTool> to understand whether you're

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on the right path or have some areas for improvement. For assistance, visit Facebook FtBennFRP or call (706) 545-4043.

d. Child and Youth Services (CYS) Month of the Military Child – Ms. Daphne Montgomery stated Parent Central Services is located at 6880 Marchant Street, Building 104. Each CYS facility will conduct activities throughout the month to celebrate April's Month of the Military Child. Some upcoming activities are the National Association Education of Young Children Week 3 – 7 April, Kids Fest, and Fort Benning Purple Up Day! on 14 April 1000 – 1400 at Parent Central, Young Lives, Big Stories Writing Contest for school-aged, Middle Schooled, and Teen Children, and Field Day 21 April at York Field 0800 – 1300. Operation Megaphone for Teens will occur 22 – 23 April 1500 – 0700 at the Middle School and Teen Center. For more information, visit <https://benning.armymwr.com/>.

e. Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) – Ms. Faustina O'Ree announced that the 2023 SAAPM theme is "Intervene We Are a Team. There is an US in trust. Can they trust in you?". SFC Belynda Fullerton, Lead Victim Advocate for MACH, briefed upcoming SAAPM events around Fort Benning. Army Ranger Training Brigade present static displays 1 – 29 April. On 3 – 7 April, MACH will host a Sharp Easter Egg Hunt 1100 – 1300 in the MACH Atrium, and the 194th Armored Brigade will host SHARP Week Training and Poster Contest at Harmony Church. The Teal Ribbon Kick-Off and Proclamation Signing take place on 6 April in McGinnis-Wickam Hall (MWH), Room E-106, from 0930 – 1130. The 1st SFAB SAAPM Fitness Challenge is 14 April 1000 – 1300 at Building 9195 on Kelley Hill. MACH will host Umbrella Painting 10 – 21 April 1200 – 1500 in the atrium. For more information, contact your brigade SARC/SHARP VA or the MCoE SHARP Program Office for additional information at (706) 545-2305 or (706) 566-1345/ (706) 544-4931

7. Panel Updates:

a. Directorate of Emergency Services (DES) – SGM Nicole Brannan briefed that DES would like to increase fire safety awareness with standard household dryers. Fire safety for dryers is critical and can be minimized through awareness and prevention. Some fire ignition sources in dryers are excessive lint and clothing. Improper cleaning, hidden objects, and clogged or blocked vents are other causes of dryer fires. To reduce the risk of fires, ensure that vents and clothing traps are properly cleaned, and inspect the venting system behind the dryer to ensure it is not damaged or restricted. These actions could reduce the potential of home fires. For more information, contact DES at (706) 545-5223.

b. Martin Army Community Hospital (MACH) – LTC Deborah Sartori introduced Ms. Wendy Peacock, Department of Primary Care. The COVID-19 vaccine is available, with a primary series and booster dose for six months – 4 yrs. Primary; 5 – 12 yrs. Primary and booster; and over 12 years. Primary and booster. Ensure you conduct your preventive health screening by taking the time to schedule your annual wellness exam. The new Survey of Well-being of Young Children (SWYC) is an enhanced comprehensive screening instrument for children under 5 years of age for early detection of Developmental Autism, Emotional/Behavioral, and Family. MACH now offers 3D mammography technology. Women

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ages 40 – 74 with no previous history or surgeries can self-refer for screening. Anyone of any age can be diagnosed with. The new colon cancer recommended screening age is now 45. MACH offers the following type of tests: Colonoscopy (referral needed from provider), Cologuard screening, FITDNA testing, and Occult stool testing. There is approximately 13,000 new case diagnosis of cervical cancer each year with about 4,000 women who die of cervical cancer yearly. The recommended screening age is 21 – 65. The Integrated Health Services in Primary Care require referrals for the following services: Behavioral Health, Sports Medicine, Physical Therapy, Nutrition, and Clinical Pharmacist. Diabetes Self-Management Education Class requires referral for Face-to-Face (F2F) or virtual training. The F2F classes are conducted the 1st and 2nd Wednesdays of the month. Virtual classes are conducted on Thursdays 1400 – 1600. They recommend screening age 21 – 65. The Quic Care Clinic provides compassionate and quality treatment for acute minor illness and injury. The Clinic is open Monday – Friday 0900 - 1600 and serves ages: 3 months and older. For appointment call (762) 408-2273. For more information on services provided at MACH visit <https://martin.amedd.army.mil/>.

c. United Services Organization (USO) – Ms. Christina Shively introduced Ms. Jazmine Murphy, the new Center Operations Manager for Fort Benning. USO will host Coffee Connections on 6 April at the Custer Village Community Event Room. On 14 April, USO partnered with Villages of Benning to host the Celebration for the Month of the Military Child at Indianhead Village 1600 – 1800. Units desiring to request USO Assistance support for upcoming events can submit their email request to usofortbenning@uso.org. The Pathfinders Transition Program assist service members and dependents with creating a plan for life after military service connecting them to resources and services, such as education, employment, financial readiness, mentoring, veteran benefits, and much more. Connect virtually with a USO Transition Specialist or visit ACS at Building 7, Monday – Friday, 0800 – 1430 to speak with Ms. Nicole Applegate. Volunteers are always welcome. For more information, visit www.facebook.com/USOFortBenning and <https://www.uso.org/programs/uso-pathfinder-transition-program>.

d. The Villages of Benning – Mr. Jason Maxfield announced that Villages of Benning offices would host a "Celebration of the Month of the Military Child" 14 April at Indianhead Community Center 1600 – 1800. Wear purple on Fridays to show your support for the Month of the Military Child. The Spruce Up Your Village will last all month, with special monthly events. Free flowers and discounted mulch for \$2, along with grass seeds will be available for purchase. Sign-up will take place 10 – 17 April. In Celebration of everyone's hard work, there will be a community Spruce Up Party 22 April 1000 – 1200 at the Welcome Center. For more information, visit <https://villagesofbenning.com/>. Mr. John Strange, Chief of the Housing Division for the DPW, informed the community about understanding and responding to mold. Regarding mold spores, Georgia's hot, humid summer weather provides the perfect conditions for the growth of mold spores. Typical conditions that lead to mold growth in buildings are chronic water intrusion, lack of adequate ventilation and moisture control, and isolated floods caused by the weather or a water pipe bursting. Recommendations in Family housing and Barracks are to report SFG/mold or conditions for mold growth caused by housing construction/ maintenance issues through the 24/7 Maintenance Request Line (706-

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685-3929), or Housing Hotline Number (706-626-2002). Employ HVAC settings appropriately by placing HVAC in AUTO (Not ON or OFF) and setting temp range between 67 to 73 degrees. Do not obstruct airflow, and change air filters at least monthly.

e. Commissary – Ms. Stacy White announced that holiday hours Easter on 9 April, are 1000 – 2000. Produce Holiday Door-Buster Specials! will run 7 – 9 April with special pricing on asparagus and pineapples! The DoD expanded commissary shopping privileges in the U.S. effective 1 January 2020 as part of the Purple Heart and Disabled Veterans Equal Access Act of 2018. The commissary access expansion included veterans with any service-connected disability, Purple Heart recipients, former Prisoners of War, and individuals approved and designated as the primary caregivers of eligible veterans under the V.A.'s Program of Family Caregivers. Commissaries.com is your official site for all commissary hours of operation. On 17 April, the commissary will host NASCAR Driver Justin Allgaier in the commissary parking lot for photos and prizes. In Celebration of the Month of the Military Child, the commissary announced they would host Deca's Military Child Drawing Contest! The contest runs 1 – 30 April for ages groups PreK-4th, 5-8th, and 9-12th. For more information, visit <https://www.commissaries.com> or contact (706) 544-3965/ 3966.

f. AAFES - Mr. Tim Hall stated AAFES will host LTG Robert F. Foley (U.S. Army retired) book signing 5 April 1100 – 1400 at the Main Exchange. The Month of the Military Child Celebration will be 15 April 1100 – 1400 at the Main Exchange. Fort Benning DOC's Dental is hosting a Month of the Military Child Coloring Contest 1 – 28 April. Pick up coloring sheets at the Main Exchange DOC's Dental office. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/FortBenningExchange/>.

g. Garrison Chaplain – Mr. Stephen Paquette introduced the newest member of the Religious Support Office, LTC (CH) Scott Newman. The RSO Spring Religious Services schedule is available. Registration for Vacation Bible School is open for the summer season 24 – 28 July. Check out the RSO Facebook Page or Garrison Chaplain's page for more information on upcoming religious holidays and services. Visit <https://www.benning.army.mil/Garrison/Chaplains/index.html> or call (706) 545-1760.

h. Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) – Ms. Patricia Lamson-Poeschel highlighted upcoming events to make you healthy, wealthy, and wise. The ACS FRP offers an Investment and Retirement Basics class 20 April 1300 – 1500. Family Child Care (FCC) provider Open House will occur 29 April 1200 – 1400 at the FCC Office, Building 1056. DFMWR lifeguard training for ages 15 and above is scheduled for 22 – 23 and 29 – 30 April. Babysitting Class will be 22 April, ages 12 – 18 (6th grade and up) from 0830 – 1700 at the CYS Complex. Mind Craft Thursday will occur every Thursday in April from 1700 – 1830 at Russ Pond. The MWR Roll with DFMWR will occur every 2nd Tuesday in April 1700 – 1830 at Russ Pond. The DFMWR CPR class is 12 April 0900 – 1500 at the Breezeway Complex, Building 117. The ACS Spouse Newcomer's Orientation will occur 13 April 0930 – 1100 in the ACS Auditorium, Building 7. The Fort Benning Field Day for Tri-City Exceptional Children will take place 21 April at York Field/Smith Fitness Center 0900 – 1300. Volunteers are needed. Fort Benning Volunteer Recognition Ceremony will occur 11 May 1700 – 2000.

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Contact Ms. Sheri Peters at Sheri.m.peters3.civ@army.mil for more information. For more information on upcoming events, visit <https://benning.armymwr.com/#>.

i. Garrison Command Sergeant Major – CSM Sanchez urged the community to participate in the Community Spruce Up events hosted by the Villages of Benning and to increase support to attain the goal set for the Army Emergency Relief Annual Campaign scheduled to end 15 May.

j. Garrison Commander – COL Mahle closed by emphasizing the submission of Volunteer Recognition packets from the community to solidify the execution of the Volunteer Recognition Ceremony. The final day to submit recognition recommendation packets is 20 April. The Volunteer Management Information System (VMIS) is the Army's system of record to manage volunteerism in the military community. Individuals and organizations needing VMIS registration or having questions about VMIS should contact ACS Specialist Sheri Peters at Sheri.m.peters3.civ@army.mil. COL Mahle provided an overview of action on 11 May for the Installation Name Change event, highlighting that measures are in progress to complete all naming removal and replacement across the installation. He noted that Fort Moore will not be used in any capacity until the official completion of the Installation Renaming Ceremony 11 May. He thanked the speakers, panel members, and the Fort Benning community for joining today's CLIF.

8. For more information, see CLIF slides on the MWR Website at <https://benning.armymwr.com/programs/clif>

9. If you would like to provide feedback about the CLIF (program improvements, program topic, and program speaker suggestions) please visit https://benning.army.mwr.com/application/files/5616/6687/4156/FORT_BENNING_CLIF_FEEDBACK_FORM_26_OCT_2022.pdf to access our new feedback form for your submission. Email your input to Leonard Andrews at leonard.l.Andrews@army.mil

10. Meeting adjourned at 1205. The next CLIF is scheduled for 2 May at 1030.

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Encl
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LEONARD ANDREWS
Army Community Service (ACS) Specialist

CF: Panel members