



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

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF  
IMBE-MWA (608)

1 September 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR Garrison Commander, Fort Benning, GA 31905

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Fort Benning Garrison Community Activities and Resources Exchange Meeting

1. The Fort Benning Garrison Community Activities and Resources Exchange (CARE) meeting convened at 0930 on 1 September 2020 via video teleconference.

2. Membership Present or Represented:

COL Matthew Scalia	Garrison Commander
Mr. Alvin D. Gelineau	Director, Family and MWR
Mr. Kevin Clarke	Director, DES
LTC Steven Oliver	Chief of Human Resources Division, MACH
Ms. Heather Bearden	Assistant Community Director, Villages of Benning
Mr. Charles Kelly	Store Administrator, DeCA
Mr. Don Sydlik	General Manager, AAFES
Mr. Nathan Snook	Deputy Director, PAO

3. The CARE panel and briefers provide valuable information for senior spouses/leaders to share with their units. The panel and briefers are available to answer questions. Today's topic was "On Post Resources."

4. Community Forum:

a. Georgia Drivers Services – Mr. Zach Foster briefed on services offered at Benning. He provided the hours of operation for Fort Benning and Midland locations. Fort Benning office will be open Wednesday and Thursday 0800-1700 and the Midland office Tuesday through Friday 0800-1800 and Saturday 0800-1200. Both locations are taking customers by appointments only and customers need to fill out an online application and provide a copy of the confirmation page at the appointment. Mr. Foster spoke on documents necessary for passports, driver's license for minors, name changes and lost or stolen driver's license. For more information, visit <https://dds.georgia.gov/>.

b. Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) – Ms. Jada Bone briefed on WIC's supplemental program. The program provides nutrition and health education, financial assistance to purchase healthy foods and other services free of charge to eligible Georgia Families. She spoke of some of the services provided such as personalized nutrition consultations, food vouchers, referrals for medical and dental services, healthcare insurance, childcare and tips

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on eating well. She mentioned the office is offering telephonic appointments and the program is income based. For more information, visit [https://www.wicprograms.org/ci/ga-ft\\_benning](https://www.wicprograms.org/ci/ga-ft_benning).

c. Veterinary Services – Sergeant Waddy Delacruz briefed on the services, which currently only include wellness and sick call. Veterinary Services have postponed all surgeries. He relayed the importance of contacting them ahead of time for PCS. Sergeant Delacruz spoke about the steps to make in and out-processing easier. For more information, visit <https://benning.armymwr.com/programs/veterinary-services>.

d. Santa's Castle – Ms. Dawn Cox briefed on Santa's Castle. They provide toys for Fort Benning children whose Families are experiencing financial hardships. They provide each child with approximately \$150 in toys and each Family receives a book and board game. They will send out applications via email 3 September. Applications are also available on Santa's Castle website. Participating Families must provide a copy of their DEERs statement. If you want to volunteer, make a donation or conduct a fund-raising event, send an email to [fortbenningsantascastlepresident@gmail.com](mailto:fortbenningsantascastlepresident@gmail.com) or [fortbenningsantascastle@gmail.com](mailto:fortbenningsantascastle@gmail.com). For more information, visit website <https://www.santascastlebenning.org/> or <https://www.facebook.com/FortBenningSantasCastle/>.

## 5. Panel Updates:

a. Department of Emergency Services (DES) – Mr. Kevin Clarke stated a detailed study showed that 15 percent of the people on post are not following the speed limit and that DES is looking at ways to curb the speeding in the housing areas. He stated Benning Boulevard Access Control Point is now open during peak traffic periods Monday through Friday 0600-0900. He cautioned attendees about conducting business over the phone and email due to the rising COVID-related scams and encouraged only conducting business on verified sites. For more information visit <https://benning.army.mil/Garrison/DES/>.

b. Martin Army Community Hospital (MACH) – LTC Steven Oliver stated MACH will open a Pediatrics COVID Upper-respiratory Infection Urgent Care Clinic for children 3 months to 18 years of age on 5 October. The clinic will be in Building 3216 on Sand Hill. It will be for children displaying COVID symptoms. Testing for COVID, strep and flu will be available and all testing will be drive-through. He turned the floor over to Major Melinda Wallace who briefed that MACH has coordinated with Publix to come on post to administer the flu vaccine to all beneficiaries and dependents. She asked that units reach out to her at [Melinda.a.wallace.mil@mail.mil](mailto:Melinda.a.wallace.mil@mail.mil) in order to set up specific days and times to be available. For more information visit <https://martin.amedd.army.mil/>.

c. Villages of Benning – Ms. Heather Bearden briefed on efforts to setting expectations on how to leave a home at move outs. Villages of Benning is working on a video outlining all standards for cleaning a home prior to move out. She mentioned that they use the waitlist to place Families in homes. They update the waitlist weekly on their website. There is a new escalation process. They ask you to contact the 24-hour maintenance line at 706-685-3929

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and the Villages Management Office regarding any issues with the community center. Villages of Benning is working on speeding up the process of work orders. The Fall Spruce Up event will take place drive-through style 25 September. The Pumpkin Door Hanger event will be virtual and take place 9 October. The drive through Trick or Treat at each village will occur 23 October. The virtual Costume Contest will take place 30 October. For more information visit <https://villagesofbenning.com/>.

d. Defense Commissary Activity (DeCA) – Mr. Charles Kelly briefed that the Commissary just installed all new point of sales systems that should be fully functional 2 September. He mentioned Labor Day shopping hours will be 0900-1700; no special hours for high-risk patrons. They are addressing the air conditioning issues; however, the process is ongoing. Halloween candy is now available on aisle one. For more information, visit <http://www.commissaries.com/>.

e. Army & Air Force Exchange Services (AAFES) - Mr. Don Sydlík stated two new facilities opened last month in the main store complex, Subway and Doc's Dental. A Panda Express and Tropical Smoothie should open by the end of September at the main post mini-mall. As a reminder, he stated that the Digital Garrison App is available for download. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/FortBenningExchange/> or call 706-682-0562.

f. Public Affairs Office (PAO) – Mr. Nathan Snook informed attendees of the current issues with the Digital Garrison App. IMCOM is working on correcting the issues. He encouraged everyone to download the app and try it. The MCoE War Fighting Conference will be virtual and attendees are encouraged to pre-register. The Fort Benning Garrison Facebook page has more information on current COVID scams. For more information and updates, visit <https://www.facebook.com/FortBenningGarrison/> or <https://www.benning.army.mil/>.

g. MCoE and Garrison Chaplain – Benning is working toward reopening chapels for in-person services (tentatively scheduled in about two weeks). Families must register for space and follow all precautions. For additional information, visit <http://www.benning.army.mil/garrison/chaplains>.

h. Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR) – Mr. Alvin Gelineau briefed that Headquarters Army G9 made some changes to the MWR website and that it just launched. The Digital App has been successful for MWR. He reminded attendees that the JAVA Cafes are currently open for limited dining, pickup and curbside orders. He updated everyone on current construction projects. Mr. Gelineau mentioned that both destination playgrounds should open by the end of September. Family Fun Day is 12 September at Kings Pond. There will be a Disk and Foot Golf Clinic 16 September 1800-1900 at the golf course. A sunset boat cruise is set for 18 September at Uchee Creek. Smith Fitness Center pools will open 22 September. For more information visit <http://www.benning.armymwr.com/>.

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i. Garrison Commander - COL Matthew Scalia briefed installation updates. COL Scalia stated that some of the restrictions regarding visitors have lifted. Residents' visitors are able to come on post but there are still restrictions on visitors for recreational activities. Select gyms on the installation are preparing to open for weekend hours for all ID cardholders. Other services are preparing to reopen as COVID numbers decrease. COL Scalia spoke about the need for extra services for the select special needs population and the children utilizing school age services at Child and Youth Services facilities.

6. Due Outs:

a. DeCA: Provide current purchase limitations, i.e., chicken, beef, toilet tissue, etc.

b. Garrison:

(1) Provide guidance on off-post religious service attendance for service members and Families.

(2) Provide additional information on resources for children with special needs while learning remotely.

(3) Provide additional information on DoDEA teachers/staff providing support and/or supplementing staff at Child and Youth Services facilities while learning remotely.

7. For more information, see CARE slides on the MWR Website at <https://benning.armymwr.com/programs/care-community-activities-resource-exchange>.

8. Meeting adjourned at 1100. The next CARE meeting scheduled for 6 October at 0930.

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GRETCHEN CHAMPION  
Program Support Assistant

CF: Council members



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ATTENTION OF

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8 September 2020

MEMORANDUM FOR Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation,  
ATTN: IMBE-MWA, Fort Benning, GA 31905

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Fort Benning Garrison Community Activities and Resources  
Exchange Meeting

1. The September Community Activities and Resources Exchange meeting minutes are approved.

2. POC: Ms. Gretchen Champion, Program Support Assistant, ACS, DFMWR, 706-626-0824.

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MATTHEW SCALIA  
COL, IN  
Garrison Commander

CF:  
Each Member