

A Better Benning 2021

MWR 2nd Quarter

	What is the Problem?	MWR	Status
1	<p>Child Care and Development in a Covid-contested Environment on Fort Benning. (A Better Benning Issue)</p> <p>Due to inconsistent and unpredictable systems and resources on Fort Benning, families are forced to seek care and/or extracurricular activities off post. This increases the Fort Benning community to Covid-19 risk & exposure which leads to increase in various hardships when parents and children are required to quarantine or isolate. Additionally, there is a break/gap in communication between commands, medical, child care, and civilian agencies regarding the availability of local resources. This impacts unit and family readiness because it degrades the (MCoE) Army's ability to generate force productivity and sustain a conducive work/life balance.</p>	<p>Closeout: A one page chart was given to all facilities and sent out thru CYMS to parents so they could easily look at the chart for guidance on COVID and Non-COVID diagnosis. The chart was done with input from MACH through our CYS Nurse. All members of management were trained on this information. This information will go into our lessons learned book for future reference.</p>	Closed
2	<p>24/7 Soldiers Require 24/7 Support (A Better Benning Issue)</p> <p>The gym hours are not accommodating to the ever changing schedule of the Fort Benning soldier. Soldiers are often constricted to the barracks, leading to larger issues such as substance abuse, behavior or health issues and SHARP cases. This will also allow Soldiers stationed on or off of the installation to have an outlet or deal with stress away from home in a positive way. By the gyms being limited, soldiers are limited with activities after hours.</p>	<p>WORKING: We are actively pursuing this issue and except to offer 24/7 hours at Smith and Whittington October of 21. This process requires the acquisition of IT infrastructure requiring funding and ITAS waivers which will take several months to process.</p>	Actively Working
3	<p>Improving Snack at the Teen Center (A Better Benning Issue)</p> <p>Youth are not impressed with the food that is provided at Middle School & Teen. Youth feel that the snack is repetitive and does not offer a variety of foods that teens enjoy.</p>	<p>Close Out: Menu has been changed and Youth input into menu selection is being solicited. There is a committee at the Teen Center which meets regularly to make suggestions.</p>	Closed
4	<p>Pay day care during federal holidays</p> <p>I should not be paying child care while everyone is off and is a holiday.</p>	<p>Unobtainable: Fee policy is developed by DoD and applies to all Military Child Care.</p>	Closed

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5	<p>Childcare that fits in a budget in real of soldier as well as spousal employment.</p> <p>Drop off centers are closed and there aren't openings for childcare.</p>	<p>Recommend Close Out: We have Hourly Care available with multiple Family Child Care (FCC) providers. We do not have the capacity to offer Child Care in a Center setting and also meet the full time child care needs of the community. Fees are addressed below.</p>	Closed
6	<p>Child care---DAY CARE is way too expensive</p> <p>Daycare is more than half our BAH. If housing takes full BAH how do we pay for anything. Childcare rates are off the chain.</p>	<p>Unobtainable: Fee policy is developed by DoD and applies to all Military Child Care.</p> <p>Recommendation: refer to housing for BAH issue.</p>	Closed
7	<p>Fort Benning's FCC lending library desperately needs revamped and funding.</p> <p>Fort Benning's FCC lending library is in terrible condition. Lack of funding has prevented us from having decent toys, books and learning materials to rotate. The shed housing our furniture has been leaking for over a year. Rats, mice, spiders and roaches live in with our furniture and equipment making the very little things we do have unsanitary for the military children we care for. Providers are not able to easily access toys to rotate and new providers have a hard time gathering things to set up their home daycares.</p>	<p>Closeout: a thorough assessment of the FCC lending closet program has been completed and deficiencies identified. Purchases have been initiated and items received to address the shortcomings.</p>	Closed

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8	<p>Spouse employment and childcare.</p> <p>Child care during distant learning when school requires it.</p>	<p>Unobtainable: Regulatory requirements dictate the number of children we can have in care in any facility, the ratio of children to care givers and many other aspects of our operations. These regulatory requirements, which are implemented to protect the wellbeing of the children in care, do not lend themselves to developing a large surge capacity for care and appropriate supervision of a large number of children during a situation like mass distance learning. We are actively assessing how much we can increase the capacity of the overall program to accommodate for surge situations in the future.</p>	Closed
9	<p>Just a suggestion.....Allow vets to use the gym.</p> <p>It would allow disabled vets access to equipment that could help them in rehabilitation on injuries and also stay healthy.</p>	<p>Unobtainable/Close Out: Patronage of MWR facilities is dictated by Army regulation 215-1 and Department of Defense Instruction 1015.10. The recent expansion of benefits to certain Veteran did not include access to on post Fitness Centers.</p>	Closed
10	<p>Smith gym closes too early at 8PM. Please change hours back to 10PM.</p>	<p>Working: We are working towards returning operations to pre-Covid levels and expect to reach this goal by October of 2021 if staffing levels permit.</p>	Closed
11	<p>Age restrictions for dependents at gyms/ lack of bike lanes, connected multi use pathways, sidewalks.</p> <p>My family pays for gym memberships for off post gyms because post gyms will not allow younger teens to use facilities. The lack of connected multi use paths, bike lanes, or sidewalks creates the need to use a car to conduct small trips that could be done by bike or walking. Also presents a significant danger to the kids that live in on post housing and have no sage way to commute to school, recreation, or shopping. All these combined adds to a</p>	<p>GYM ISSUE - Unobtainable/Close Out: Army Regulation 215-1 dictates the minimum age for patrons. CYS is currently working to set up a Youth Gym which should be operational no later than November 2021.</p> <p>INFRASTRUCTURE ISSUE - Working: DPW is actively investing in plan to connect of post with bike/walking trails.</p>	Ongoing

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	significant loss to quality of life to members of the Fort Benning community.		
12	<p>The MWR not knowing anything about the things they are hosting or that all the flyers for activities have the MWR Phone number on it but when called they have no idea about the event or that the event even exists.</p> <p>I called the phone number at the bottom of the flyer to ask about the "Clean up the Uchee" river cleanup project and it was the general MWR phone number and they had no idea about the event and redirected me to another person who didn't know either and then I found the Facebook flyer for it to email it to the person I was talking to and she was able to help me then but the same thing happened with a fishing event.... How can these flyers say the MWR is hosting it and plaster the phone number for it on the flyers but not a person there at the office know about the evens they host?</p>	Close Out: This was the result of an internal communication issue which has been addressed and rectified.	Closed
13	<p>There are not enough drive through food operations available on Fort Benning. Breakfast and lunch driver-thrus, are always backed up and it takes forever to get your meal.</p> <p>I only have 30 minutes for lunch. This problem causes me a lot of stress because I have to get something to eat, then eat it and be back at my desk in 30 minutes. It's virtually impossible.</p>	MWR Close Out: Main Post Java new location with Drive through and extended hours opened July 2021.	Closed

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14	<p>Family Entertainment Center</p> <p>When we were here previously (2012-2015), the FEC play area was in great condition and affordable. Now it's is run down and too expensive to enjoy other than on special occasions or discounted specials. It needs to be updated as well as better monitored for unruly behavior. Since COVID puts limitations on indoor playgrounds, now would be a great time for remodeling and updating.</p>	<p>Working: The indoor playground reopened in June. An updated 5 Year plan for the facility, which will provide updates and improvements is part of the FY 22 and beyond budget process.</p>	<p>Closed</p>
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