

CDC taking steps to take care of employees, continue high level of care

By Thomas Zimmerman 27 August 2018



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The child care facilities will close one day a quarter so employees can complete mandatory training, take part in team-building activities and other educational opportunities to stay on the cutting edge of childcare techniques. The first planned closure will be Sept. 21 and will include all Carlisle Barracks and Letterkenny CDC child care and Youth Services programs, to include before and after school care.

“For an organization to be truly effective the employees need to be trained,

have the resources they need and operate as a cohesive unit,” said Lt. Col. Sally Hannan, Garrison Commander. Hannan said that she and MWR leadership have received feedback from employees that balancing required Army, Pennsylvania and other mandatory training's with their daily duties is becoming increasingly difficult.

“Right now our employees are forced to come in early or stay late to complete these training's, which isn't a sustainable model over the long term,” said Hannan. “The people that we trust with the care of our children are what makes our programs among the best in the Army. We don't want them to continue to sacrifice time with their families and well deserved time off to complete training's.”

Staff are often unable to complete these requirements during their normal duty day because of the nature of their business.

“It's not as simple as it is for most employees where they can block out part of their day to complete training's or other mandatory requirements,” said Hannan. “To maintain the safe environment for our children we ensure there are the right ratios of staff to kids. There just isn't the same flexibility that other services may have.”

The first closure on Sept. 21 coincides with the Carlisle Barracks Organizational Day, which CDC and CYS employees have been unable to attend in the past.

“We haven't been able to recognize these important folks and their hard work at our event in the past and timing this event will allow them, to conduct training and join us at the event,” said Hannan. “We understand that this date may pose some challenges since it doesn't coincide with a holiday, training holiday or scheduled day off of school, but we are looking at the futures dates and will do our best to schedule them near RWR, RDO, or training holidays when possible.”

The list of planned closures will be posted 1 October along with any changes to fees as a result.

For questions or concerns contact the MWR director at (717) 245-4070.