

CDC/CYS closed Feb. 15 for staff training

By Thomas Zimmerman 30 January 2019



Taking care of valued employees, maintaining the safety of children and fostering a cohesive team is driving a one-day a quarter closure for the Moore Child Development Center, McConnell Youth Center and Letterkenny Child Development Center.

The child care facilities will close one day a quarter so employees can complete mandatory training, take part in teambuilding activities and other educational opportunities to stay on the cutting edge of childcare techniques. The next planned closure will be Feb. 15 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 trainings with their daily duties is

becoming increasingly difficult.

“Right now our employees are forced to come in early or stay late to complete these trainings, 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 trainings.”

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 trainings 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.”