

Navy Program Extending Childcare and Fitness Hours Proves Successful

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Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) is continuing to expand hours in its child development centers and fitness centers to include 10 additional Navy installations by March and expects a roll-out to all installations by December.

In April, CNIC implemented a pilot program to provide greater services to support Sailors and their families at three installations. These installations were chosen because of the highest concentration of personnel with work requirements beyond the normal work day. The program was implemented first at Naval Base Kitsap in Bremerton, Washington, Joint Expeditionary Base in Little Creek, Virginia, and Naval Base Coronado in San Diego.

"The need has been identified to extend hours to give families a better opportunity for things like flexible work schedules, more opportunities for education, fitness opportunities and things of that nature," said Greg Young, Navy Child and Youth Program director.

CNIC will continue to roll out expanded hours at other installations with the goal of being complete by the end of this year in accordance with secretary of the Navy's (SECNAV) Talent Management Initiative release in June, 2015.

The 10 additional locations are:

- Naval Support Activity Midsouth, Millington, Tennessee
- Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas
- Naval Air Station Jacksonville, Florida
- Naval Base Coronado, California
- Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada
- Submarine Base New London, Connecticut
- Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, Virginia
- Naval Air Facility Atsugi, Japan
- Naval Technical Training Command Corry Station, Pensacola, Florida
- Metro San Diego Child Development Home Program (select homes)

"We are expanding now to 10 additional locations based on the pilots we have been running," said Young. "We are opening those locations up to 14 hours per day from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m. based on utilization from initial pilot sites."



NORFOLK -- Naval Support Activity Hampton Roads Child Development Center hosts a Month of the Military Child parade. April was designated the Month of the Military Child by former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger in 1986. The monthly observance was set aside as a time to applaud military families and their children for the daily sacrifices they make and obstacles they overcome, such as frequent moves, separation from their active-duty parent and school changes. (U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 3rd Class Molly Greendeer/Released)

Demand will be monitored to determine if there is a need to go up to 16 hours, added Young.

"Approximately one fourth of the enrolled families have been using the extended hours," said Young. "Between the hours of 5 a.m. to 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. are the most utilized."

CNIC has already extended the hours of their fitness centers at all their installations. The centers are authorized to be open up to 118 hours a week to meet customer demand since October.

"Right now that program is considered fully implemented," said James Baker, CNIC's Fleet Readiness Program director. "We are meeting the Navy's Talent Management Initiative set forth by SECNAV to make sure the facilities are open to satisfy the customer's demands."