

# New Subsidy Program Improves Childcare On Base

Story by BELLE BALANAG, Child Development Homes Director



Yokosuka's Child Development Homes just got a little better, thanks to the new Child Development Home Direct Subsidy Program (CFAY Inst. 1754.5).

Finding affordable childcare is a major concern for parents everywhere. Finding reliable childcare providers is a concern of MWR here in Yokosuka. Fortunately, with the introduction of a new base instruction, things just got better for both parents and potential providers.

Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka Instruction 1754.5 (COM-FLEACT1754.5), a new Child Development Home (CDH) Direct Subsidy Program (CDHDSP), went into effect on October 1, 2003. This instruction calls for an aggressive marketing plan to increase the number of providers in CFAY. The recruitment and retention policy is expected to address a marketing campaign where providers and applicants are given cash and non-cash incentives that will attract and retain committed, quality childcare providers. Incentives such as the CDH Lending Library, with start-up kits being made available, will represent a significant cost saving to the new provider. The CDHDSP's primary monetary incentive will be in the form of subsidies to parents using the CDH providers. Full time children in the homes will now be covered by the subsidy where parents pay weekly fees based on their total family income. This new subsidy will increase the weekly and hourly total paid to the provider based on the ages of the children. Children with special needs typically need more one-on-one care and providers need additional training to provide special needs care. To encourage CDH providers to offer this type of care, they will receive additional subsidy for caring for children with special needs. Military and civilian parents using the CDH providers need childcare for shift work schedules, which include evenings and weekends. To encourage providers to keep hours open for those schedules they will receive increased hourly fees that the subsidy will cover and not the parents. This new incentive will enable providers to run their own independent, home-based business within the stability and security of an established program and ensures them competitive market rates.

Aside from this, a cash incentive will be offered to providers recruiting new ones into the program. Childcare vouchers will be made available to new applicants to attend the orientation and certification training. These vouchers will like wise be made available to certified providers going to training or taking early childhood classes. Certified providers will also receive cash incentives for completing the Standardized Navy Training modules and applying for recertification provided they complete 24 hours of training and six training modules a year. The CDHDSP will provide training grants to each provider that include the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential and Provider Home Accreditation.

The Navy firmly believes that this intensive program will continue to demonstrate its ability to retain CDH providers and promote the concept of maintaining their small businesses as providers move from one duty station to another. For more information on how you can become a CDH provider, please call 243-5478/3222.

# Outside the Gate

- **Discounted Tokyo Disneyland Tickets:** ITT has Tokyo Disneyland Passport tickets available for the discounted price of \$40 for adult, \$34 for junior and \$25 for child. Tickets are good for one day of admission and rides.
- **NBA Japan Game 2003:** Don't miss the chance to see head-to-head NBA action live at the Saitiama Super Arena as the Seattle SuperSonics take on the Los Angeles Clippers on November 1. ITT is now selling tickets for ¥11,200. Transportation sign-ups are also available for \$18 per person. Tickets are limited to two per ID holder.
- **Metallica Japan Tour 2003:** ITT is now selling tickets to see Metallica at Yoyogi National Stadium on November 7! Tickets cost ¥6,000, and are limited to two per ID card holder. Transportation sign-ups begin the same day, and cost \$12 per person.
- **Ja Rule Japan Tour 2003:** Don't miss the chance to see Def Jam recording artist Ja Rule live at Tokyo Bay NK Hall on November 8. ITT is now selling tickets for ¥5,700 (standing room only). Transportation is also available for \$14 per person.
- **Air Supply Japan Tour 2003:** 70's era Aussie balladeers Air Supply are coming to the Pacifico in Yokohama on November 20, and ITT can get you there. Tickets are now on sale for ¥5,700 each. Transportation is also available for \$10 per person.
- **Paul Mauriat Grand Orchestra Japan Tour 2003:** Don't miss the opportunity to see the Paul Mauriat Grand Orchestra live at the Yokosuka Art Theater on November 28. ITT is now selling tickets for ¥5,000.
- **Christina Augilera Concert:** MTV superstar Christina Augilera is coming to Tokyo's International Forum December 2 & 3, and ITT can get you there! Tickets are now on sale for ¥6,000 each (limit, 2 per ID holder). Transportation is also available for \$12 per person.

*For details about any of the events listed above, call ITT at 243-5613/7257. ITT is open Monday through Friday from 0900 to 1800 and Saturday from 0900 to 1300. ITT ticket sales are open to all DOD ID card holders, 18 years old and above attached to CFAY and tenant commands*

- **Beginner Rock Climbing in Yugawara:** Join Outdoor Recreation on October 25 as we head to Yugawara Makuiwa for this month's beginner rock climbing class! Participants will learn the basics skills of climbing, belaying and rappelling. If we're lucky, the fall colors may be beginning as well! The cost is \$30 per person.
- **Beginner Sea Kayaking in Hayama:** Try your hand at paddling a kayak as Outdoor Recreation heads to Hayama on November 1. After a brief class to learn the basics, we will paddle along the coastline between Zushi and Chojagasaki. Enjoy the sights sounds and smells of being on the sea. The cost is \$30 per person.
- **Intermediate Day Hike in Gunma Prefecture:** Join Outdoor Recreation on November 8 as we travel to Gunma Prefecture to take on Miyogisan, a chain of pinnacle peaks that form a solid ridge of rock. We will hike just below this 5km long rock wall to Sekimon, the "Four Rock Gates." Our picturesque lunch will take place on top of "The Big Gun" rock at the base of Sekimon. This cost is \$40 per person.
- **Beginner Rock Climbing in Yokosuka:** If you're interested in challenging yourself, but don't want the long drive, let the folks at the Outdoor Recreation Center teach you rock climbing in Takatori-yama on November 2. The faces you will climb are fit for beginners and advanced climbers. We will teach you basic rock climbing skills and will even give you the chance to rappel. The cost is \$20 per person

*For more information on this, or any other Outdoor Recreation tours, please call 243-5732 or 241-3708.*