

Media Release



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AFAP conference seeks to make Fort Leonard Wood a great place to live, work

FORT LEONARD WOOD, Mo. – More than 50 representatives from Fort Leonard Wood will meet to understand the needs of soldiers, civilians and families during the Army Family Action Plan conference that is scheduled to take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 17-19 at Army Community Service, Building 486.

The workgroup will assess and refine quality of life issues that have been collected from the Fort Leonard Wood community during the past year, Debra Griffin, Army Community Service AFAP manager, said.

The last day of the conference will consist of an out brief to installation leaders to recap how the conference went and how issues were prioritized, Griffin said.

The top issues get sent up from the local level to a mid-level AFAP summit, and finally to the Department of the Army, Bill Brownfield, Army Community Service community readiness officer, said.

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At each level of the AFAP process, delegates determine if the issue can be handled within their area of responsibility, Brownfield said.

If we can identify as soon as an issue comes in that it's an installation level issue, we move it over to the Garrison's Interactive Customer Evaluation program and then it gets tasked to the appropriate directorate, Brownfield said.

That way, it allows AFAP delegates here to focus on issues that are above the installation level, he said.

Delegates for the conference are selected by taking a demographic layout of the community and then asking each of the units here to provide a certain number of individuals to participate, Brownfield said.

Participants could include family members, single soldiers, retirees, enlisted service members, survivors—basically it's a workgroup comprised of all the various categories that represent our Army, Brownfield said.

AFAP provides the means for commanders at all levels to learn about and seek solutions to address the concerns of their communities.

“People need to know that their voice is important and AFAP does work,” Griffin said. “They just have to start the process and be a part of it.”

The workgroup is not gathering new issues during the conference; however if someone has an AFAP issue they can contact Army Community Service by calling 573-596-0212 or by making an online submission to www.myarmyonesource.com, Griffin said.

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According the Army OneSource website, as of March 2012, since the inception of AFAP in 1983 there have been 691 issues elevated to the Department of the Army level. Of those, 507 have been completed, 148 were unattainable due to either legislative or budget constraints, and 36 remain active.

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About Fort Leonard Wood

Fort Leonard Wood is a thriving and prosperous installation that has evolved from a small basic training post 70 years ago to a premier Army Center of Excellence that trains 80-90,000 military and civilians each year.

Home to the Maneuver Support Center of Excellence, Fort Leonard Wood now trains and educates service members and develops doctrine and capabilities for the Training and Doctrine Command's U.S. Army Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear School, U.S. Army Engineer School, and U.S. Army Military Police School, three gender integrated Initial Military Training brigades, one of only five reception stations in the Army, and the Army's largest Non Commissioned Officers Academy.

Over the past several years, Fort Leonard Wood has received numerous additional responsibilities to include supporting the 4th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, a large Forces Command unit that is responsible for all deployable capabilities at Fort Leonard Wood. A colonel-commanded Marine Corps Detachment and an Air Force Detachment, which are both the largest on any Army installation, are located on Fort Leonard Wood; a large Navy Seabee Detachment and elements of the Coast Guard train here as well.

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