

# The Fleet & Family Support Center

Naval Support Activity Bahrain

## The Sands Gazette

Issue # 53

April 2012

### Inside this issue:

[Sexual Assault Awareness Month \(SAAM\)](#)

P.1

[Child Abuse Prevention Month & Month of the Military Child](#)

P.2

[Helping Kids Develop Character](#)

P.2

[Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Program \(SAPR\) Updates](#)

P.3

[Positive Child-Adult Relationship](#)

P.4

[Command Financial Specialist \(CFS\) Course](#)

P.4

**FFSC Director  
Family Advocacy Representative**  
Carolyn L. McCorvey, LCSW

**Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)**  
Ann C. Wilson, LCSW

**Clinical Social Worker**  
Susan Cartwright, LCSW, DCSW

**Work and Family Life Program Manager**  
Terri Johnson-Salter

**Family Life Specialist**  
Regina Sims

**Family Life Specialist**  
Jonathan Ridgel

**Intercultural Relations Specialist**  
Alaa Afifi

**Intercultural Relations Specialist**  
Sara Allob

**Management & Program Assistant**  
Bitto Palamattath

Nationally, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) is observed in April to raise awareness about and promote the prevention of sexual assault through special events and public education. It is a time to re-commit ourselves not only to lifting the veil of secrecy and shame, but also to raising awareness, enhancing prevention initiatives and support for victims, and strengthening our response to sexual assault.

The overall theme for the Department of Defense's 2012 campaign, "**Hurts One. Affects All. Preventing Sexual Assault is Everyone's Duty**," echoes the Department's no-tolerance policy towards sexual assault, which does unconscionable harm to victims and destabilizes the workplace. Each week in April, the following sub-themes will underscore varying aspects of sexual assault and concerted team efforts to eliminate it from our ranks:

**Week 1- Hurts One** looks at the effects of sexual assault on victims; **Week 2- Affects All** focuses on how sexual assault hurts readiness and combat effectiveness of the Force;

**Week 3- Prevention is Everyone's**

**Duty** hones in on bystander intervention and the need for unit level leadership at all pay grades, and **Week 4- We will not tolerate it; "Sexual Assault - it's my problem, your problem, our problem"** concentrates on moving forward from just a one month observance to a year-round mission to reduce the number of sexual assaults to zero.

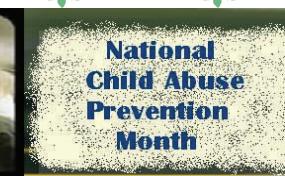
On 21 March 2012, CAPT Colin S. Walsh, Commanding Officer of U.S. Naval Support Activity (NSA) Bahrain, signed a proclamation, declaring April 2012 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month on the installation and throughout the NSA Bahrain community. According to the proclamation, "Preventing sexual assault is a MORAL duty; one that should be taken seriously because it is the right thing to do. It takes leadership and courage to be willing to step in and do the right thing, even when others do nothing! We are family... what would you do to protect your family?" In attendance at the proclamation signing were CDR Kevin P. Boykin, Executive Officer and CMDCM John E. Lambert for NSA Bahrain; Carolyn L. McCorvey, FFSC Director; Ann C. Wilson, SARC, SAPR Victim Advocates and SAPR POCs.

The prevention of sexual assault is an all-hands mission. It takes Honor, Courage and Commitment to eradicate sexual assault within our community. Each and every one of us must take an active role in prevention. We must intervene when we observe behaviors that may lead to this crime. It is our responsibility to treat ourselves and each other with dignity and respect. When it comes to sexual assault, there are no innocent bystanders. Sexual assault can be stopped right now today, if no one committed the crime. There are no victims when there are no offenders.

As we observe SAAM this April, remember that prevention is a year-round mission and every day is an opportunity to prevent sexual assault. We **can** make a difference in our corner of the world.

### Sexual Assault is a Crime... Don't Do It!!

Ann C. Wilson  
Sexual Assault Response Coordinator (SARC)



**April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the Military Child**, a time to focus on the protection and care of our most vulnerable and trusting. In 1982, President Ronald Reagan declared by Presidential Proclamation that April is Child Abuse Prevention Month to raise the public's awareness of child abuse/neglect and its prevention. Although cases of child abuse and neglect within the military community are lower than in the civilian population, mistreatment still happens. Abuse is more than just bruises and broken bones. It may mean emotional abuse and neglect, which can leave scars just as deep. This month, take advantage of this awareness campaign and do something to make a difference in a child's life. There are 1.8 million military kids out there... who potentially stand to benefit.

The Month of the Military Child is part of the legacy left by former Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger, who established this Defense Department commemoration in 1986. Today, more than 1.7 million American children, under the age of 18, have at least one parent serving in the military and about 900,000 with one or both parents deployed multiple times. This observance underscores the important role that military children play in the Armed Forces community. The Month of the Military Child is an opportunity to recognize military children and youth for their heroism, character, sacrifices and continued resilience.

## Helping Kids Develop Character

by Ann C. Wilson

The *Wizard of Oz* holds a special place in the hearts of many. A study of the story line reveals many of the key principals in prevention, which help children develop character traits that will assist them in life.

The story depicts the development of three key character points needed to live a meaningful life, three ways of acting when faced with a challenge. Those three character points are:

To have a *brain*, that is to operate with thoughtful intention;

To have a *heart*, that is to be able to put yourself in the shoes of others and to empathize with their situation; and

To have *courage*, that is to be courageous enough to stand up for what is right.

The *Wizard of Oz* centers on Dorothy, a child who imagines a situation of terrible and dramatic levels. She ponders how she might "act" in the situation, if she found herself all alone on a journey with the support of only her dog. Along the way, she encounters some folks who lack some of the character traits needed to function in a healthy way – the scarecrow, who lacked intentional thought; the lion, lacking purposeful courage; and the tin man, who lacked a heart and therefore, the empathy brought on by identification of another's plight.

Imagine what kind of differences all factions of life would experience if people operated with the full function of heart, mind and courage. We would tell the truth thoughtfully in ways that could improve someone's life; we would solve problems in non-competitive, yet humble ways; we would empathize with the struggles of others, even though we do not fully understand those struggles.



And, in the end, what did Dorothy learn? "*There's no place like home!*" Yes, values, virtues, and especially character are developed at home. While we look to other solutions, the home has an immense influence on these traits and parents/caretakers are responsible for laying the yellow brick road of character in hearts, minds and souls of today's children.





## All Kids Need:

A Peaceful Home ♥ Acceptance ♥ Art, Dance, Music & Drama ♥ Bedtime Stories ♥  
 Caring Adults ♥ Celebrations ♥ Communication ♥ Community ♥ Compliments & Praise ♥  
 Discipline ♥ Education ♥ Encouragement ♥ Family ♥ Forgiveness ♥ Freedom for Creativity & Imagination  
 ♥ Gentleness ♥ Goals ♥ Good Medical Care & Treatment ♥ Healthy, Nutritious Food ♥  
 Healthy Self-Esteem & Self Worth ♥ Help with Homework ♥ Honesty & Integrity ♥ Hope for a  
 Bright & Beautiful Tomorrow ♥ Hugs ♥ Individuality ♥ Joy & Laughter ♥ Kindness ♥ Life Skills ♥ Listening  
 ♥ Motivation ♥ Mourning Losses ♥ Nature ♥ No Abuse, Insult, Neglect, Maltreatment or Manipulation  
 ♥ Non-Judgmental Validation of Emotions & Feelings ♥ Nurturance ♥ Opportunities for Exploration & Discovery  
 ♥ Opportunities to Make Mistakes, Fall & Get Back Up ♥ Patience ♥ Personal Space & Privacy ♥ Play ♥ Positivity ♥ Protection ♥ Quality Time ♥ Quiet Time ♥ Respect ♥ Responsibilities & Rules ♥ Role Models & Ethical Heroes ♥ Safe, Secure Homes & Schools ♥ Spirituality ♥  
 Sports & Exercise ♥ Structure & Order ♥  
 Sufficient Sleep ♥ Support ♥ Togetherness ♥ Tolerance & Understanding ♥  
 Toys & Treats (...but not too many sweets) ♥ Trust ♥ Unconditional Love ♥  
 Values, Ethics & Character ♥ Wholesome Friends ♥ X-tra Loving & Attention ♥  
 Yes More Than No ♥ Zany Zebras with Purple Polka dots ♥  
 & Lots of Other Silly Things to Laugh About Together!

Author: Zimmy Zimberg



### Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (SAPR) Program Updates

A new Directive-Type Memorandum (DTM) relating to the SAPR Program was released on 16 December 2011. DTM 11-063 addresses the Expedited Transfer of Military Service Members Who File Unrestricted Reports of Sexual Assault. This DTM enables "Military Service Members who file a [credible] unrestricted report of sexual assault to request a temporary or permanent transfer from their assigned command or base, or to a different location within their assigned command or base."

According to the DTM, "The CO must approve or disapprove a Service Member's request.....within 72 hours from receipt of the Service Member's request.....If the Service Member's request is disapproved by the CO, the Service Member shall be given the opportunity to request review by the first general officer or flag officer in the chain of command....., and the decision to approve or disapprove the request must be made within 72 hours of submission of the request for review."

Additionally, the DTM states that "Military Departments shall make every reasonable effort to minimize disruption to the normal career progression of a Service Member who reports that he or she is a victim of a sexual assault," and that victims who file reports of sexual assault "shall be protected from reprisal, or threat of reprisal, for filing a report."

On 23 January 2012, the Department of Defense Directive (DoDD) 6495.01 was issued, extending the confidential, restricted reporting option to military dependents 18 years of age and older. According to the DoDD, "the Restricted Reporting Program applies to Service Members and their military dependents 18 years of age and older." This means that military family members, 18 and older, can confidentially disclose a sexual assault to the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator, SAPR victim advocates and healthcare personnel and receive services (victim advocacy, medical, counseling, etc.).

More information on these policies and other material related to sexual assault awareness and prevention can be found on the Department of Defense website at [www.sapr.mil](http://www.sapr.mil).

## Positive Child-Adult Relationships

**Carolyn McCorvey, LCSW, FFSC Director**

The month of April has been designated National Child Abuse Prevention Month. During this month there are campaigns launched across the United States by individuals, organizations, and human service agencies to promote awareness of the plight of child abuse and neglect in our homes and communities. It is a time to give special focus to children's total well-being and to realize that we all are integral parts of this process.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Children's Bureau, more children (age four and younger) die from child abuse and neglect than any other single, leading cause of death for infants and young children. This includes falls, choking on food, suffocation, drowning, residential fires, and motor vehicle accidents.

Research has shown that strong positive relationships between children and adults have been proven to be a contributing factor in the mitigation of child abuse and neglect. In the absence of a positive parent-child relationship, children can still flourish when provided an opportunity to establish a strong relationship with at least one adult role model, who is invested in their well-being.

Prevention is always better than intervention! It is everyone's responsibility to protect and nurture the lives of our children to ensure they are given optimal opportunities to reach their full potential in becoming healthy human beings and productive citizens.

## Command Financial Specialist (CFS) Course

**Jonathan Ridgel, Family Life Specialist**

**Fleet and Family Support Center hosted the Command Financial Specialist Course 11 – 15 March 2012.**

The five day course is designed to educate sailors in grades E6 and above with the three core Personal Financial Management elements: Financial Education and Training, Financial Information and Referral and Financial Counseling. This course was successfully completed by 35 participants (most ever in a single CFS course in Bahrain). Under a new CNIC pilot program E4's were also eligible to attend with approval from their commands. Five E4's successfully completed the CFS course as well. The intent is for E4's to be able to educate and counsel those in their command at grades E4 and below. All CFS's must be highly motivated and financially stable and nominated by their command.

