



# ACS CONNECTION



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1501 William C. Lee Road  
(270) 798-9322

## Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month: Talking with Your Teen

Article by Twanna Ivey, Victim Advocate,

Though some parents would prefer that their kids not date until age 35, most teens look forward to their first dating experience. So, if you are waiting to teach your kids about dating and healthy relationships, NOW is the time. Healthy relationships involve certain qualities some teens may not yet have developed and parents play a critical role in teaching those skills. Modeling healthy relationship qualities is important. Teen dating violence involves physical, emotional, and sexual abuse as well as stalking or harassment.

Physical abuse may be easily recognized while the other forms of abuse might go un-noticed. Knowing the forms of abuse can help parents recognize the signs. Since 1 in 11 females and 1 in 15 males report experiencing abuse during dating relationships, it is important that parents recognize the signs and know how to initiate what could be an uncomfortable conversation. Conversations with teens can seem one-sided since they often respond with one-word answers.

Below are tips on communicating with teens and common signs of abuse.

### To engage teens, consider the following:

- Talk less and listen more.
- Be mindful of your responses and emotional reactions which could shut down the conversation.
- Be understanding and do not take things personally.
- When appropriate, give them the opportunity to take charge of their issue.
- Respect that they may not understand until later.

### Signs your teen may be abused:

- Extremely jealous partner
- Possessive partner
- Partner makes all of the decisions
- Isolates from family and friends
- Unexplained marks and bruises
- Drastic changes in grades and interests

### Ask direct questions:

- What are your friends' dating relationships like?

- Have you ever seen any kind of abusive behavior among your friends who are dating?
- What would you do if someone (physically, emotionally, sexually or hurt you? Attempted to hurt you?
- Has anyone ever hurt you?
- You know you can talk to me, right? What can I do to help?

Fort Campbell's 2021 TDVAM theme is "Not in My Crew"

### TDVAM Activities

Writing & Art contest: Deadline for submissions: 29 Jan 2021 Teens ages 12-19

Video Challenge: Deadline for submissions: 29 Jan 2021 Teens ages 13-19

Wear Orange & Selfie day: 12 February 2021 Community

Cyberbullying Discussion: 17 February 2021 Adults & Educators

Cyberbullying Discussion: 24 February 2021 Teens ages 12-19

For more information about these activities or to register for classes on healthy relationships, call ACS Family Advocacy Program at 270-4112-5500.

# AER Announces COVID-19 Childcare Assistance Program



Article by AER.org  
submitted by Terrence O. Jones,  
Financial Readiness Program  
Manager

Army Emergency Relief announced on Thursday a new assistance program to help Army families address the costs associated with childcare assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic. The United States Army provides high-quality childcare at most Army installations.

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, many of the Army's childcare facilities are operating under reduced capacity and some have even temporarily closed, forcing Army families to look outside the gate for childcare. Private childcare providers are experiencing the same challenge, with most facilities reducing their capacity or closing until the pandemic ends.

Reduced capacity and closure of childcare facilities present a daunting financial challenge for some Army families. To help those families address the financial challenge, AER has established a new childcare assistance program aimed at providing grants and zero-interest loans to help Army families afford expensive private childcare options. The childcare assistance helps Soldiers focus on his or her mission and supports spouses' professional careers.

## Who's eligible?

Active-duty Soldiers and their eligible family members, such as dependent spouses, and members of the Reserve Component on Title 10 orders for more than 30 consecutive days (and their eligible family members) are eligible.

## What are the basic guidelines?

- Assistance for before/after school care, childcare facility, nursery school or private licensed sitter, or private licensed caregiver for an Exceptional Family Member
- Recipient of childcare must be age 12 or younger
- Spouse must be employed a minimum of 16 hours per week or pursuing a college degree, minimum 6 credit hours per semester
- Proof of reduced capacity or childcare center closure required
- No limits on the amount of assistance provided

Approval for up to 3 months of assistance, per request, no limit on requests

## To Request Assistance:

Please contact our ACS Army Emergency Relief Office located at 1501 William C. Lee Road. Office hours 0730-1600 Monday-Friday (270) 798-5518. Please call first, due to Covid-19 no walk-ins appointment only.

## Contact Information

### Army Community Service

#### 1501 William C. Lee Road:

Information & Referral	270-798-WEBB (270-798-9322) 270 956-2935
ACS Volunteer Program	270-798-2063
Army Family Action Plan (AFAP)	270-956-2934
Army Family Team Building (AFTB)	270-798-4800
Army Volunteer Corps (AVC)	270-956-2934
Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)	270-798-2727
Family Advocacy Program (FAP)	270-412-5500
Financial Readiness Program (FRP)	270-798-5518
Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC)	270-798-9322
Master Resilience Training (MRT)	270-412-5500
Mobilization, Deployment, & Stability Support Operations (MDSSO)	
Soldier and Family Readiness Group Training (SFRG )	270-798-3849
Outreach Program	270-798-2062
Relocation Readiness Program	270-798-6313
<b>2433 Indiana Avenue:</b>	
Soldier & Family Assistance Center (SFAC)	270-412-6000
<b>5001 Screaming Eagle Drive:</b>	
Survivor Outreach Services (SOS)	270-798-0272/0277