



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT
600 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20310-0600

FEB 19 2008

Dear Parent:

This letter is in support of the Military Teenagers' Environments, Exercise, and Nutrition Study (M-TEENS) being conducted by the RAND Corporation. This study seeks to understand the impact of food and physical activity environments on military children's diets, physical activities and body compositions. This longitudinal study is funded by the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health & Human Development.

Military communities offer a unique opportunity to study the impacts of changing environments on children as they relocate between installations. A random sample of 1,500 middle school age children, their Families, and school principals from 12 Army installations will be selected and invited to participate. Participating Families and school principals will be sent short web surveys, and Families will be invited to attend measurement events at their installations.

If you are contacted by the RAND Corporation, I hope you choose to participate. Your input will contribute valuable insight into the impacts of neighborhood environments on the health of military Families. Participation in the study is voluntary and will be kept completely confidential. Only the RAND research team will have access to your responses, and results will be reported anonymously.

The results of this study will inform the military's efforts to develop programs and services that achieve the greatest positive impacts for our children. You may contact your installation Child, Youth & School Services Youth Services Director for additional information related to the RAND M-TEENS.

*THANK you for
your Service!
Army Families
make the Army
Strong!*

Sincerely,

Michael Ferriter
Lieutenant General, US Army
Assistant Chief of Staff
for Installation Management