

Kimochis®



KIMOCHIS® AWARDED 5-YEAR CONTRACT WITH DoDEA/DDESS

San Rafael, CA – Kimochis®, a social-emotional learning and communication skills program from Kimochis/PFC, has been awarded a 5-year contract to provide training and support materials for Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools in the Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools (DDESS) system. The DDESS system serves an estimated 23,500 students in over 50 schools located in seven states, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Social-emotional learning (SEL) involves the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, skills, and awareness necessary to understand and manage emotions, to set and achieve positive goals, to feel and express empathy for others, to establish and maintain positive relationships, to make responsible decisions, and to effectively manage stressful/crisis situations in a constructive and ethical manner.

Kimochis® will be providing social-emotional learning tools for students, school staff, and parents in order to support the development of communication and conflict resolution skills to reinforce bullying prevention and increase positive behavior supports for DDESS students. Kimochis® training and support materials will be used to build crisis preparation, prevention, intervention, and recovery efforts for elementary age students at DDESS schools.

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Ellen Pritchard Dodge M.Ed., CCC-SLP, Education Director for Kimochis® will be providing hands-on training to key school psychologists, counselors, educators and administrators at the following military installations in early 2015.

Georgia/Alabama District
Kentucky District
North Carolina District
New York, Virginia, Puerto Rico District
South Carolina District
DoDDS-Cuba District

Additional supports will be provided to military families with the launch of the **Kimochis® Activity Kit for Military Families**. This kit is a playful, yet effective, tool to build positive communication skills that create strong family bonds, increased resiliency, and raise the odds of successful reintegration after times of separation.

The Kimochis® Activity Kit for Military Families includes a new Kimochis® character—a dog named Hero; a 32-page hardcover picture book *Hero's Big Adventure*; two sets of Kimochis® feeling pillows; the Kimochis® Nesting Heart; and an activity book filled with engaging ways for families to connect and communicate. The activities focus on strengthening the parent-child and parent-parent connections; helping the family stay unified during separations; and celebrating and reintegrating the service member back home in a way that both honors and guides a positive transition. The kit will be available in the spring of 2015.

Kimochis® offers a wide array of social emotional learning tools for schools, mental health professionals, and families. For more information, visit www.kimochis.com.

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