

AFSA Calls for Housing Improvement

The American Foreign Service Association (AFSA) recently wrote to State Management regarding housing provisions for single parents with live-in childcare providers. Under rules established before single parenthood was as common as it is now, a single parent with one child and a live-in caregiver qualifies for housing with just two bedrooms. That forces the parent and child to share a bedroom. A year ago, State told AFSA that existing regulations give posts flexibility to make special arrangements in these cases. However, AFSA continues to hear from employees whose posts do not exercise this "flexibility." AFSA has asked State to amend the regulations to authorize single parents with a live-in childcare provider to occupy housing that has a separate bedroom for that person.

Eldercare Travel Authorized

A new benefit allows employees and their spouses to make two trips throughout their careers to take care of parents' needs, such as arranging daytime care or helping them move to a residential care facility. For more on the eldercare emergency visitation travel policy, see State 8787.

The AAFSW FORUM on eldercare held in 1998 has resulted in a number of positive initiatives, including this one, to help Foreign Service families with older relatives.

Nine Is Not Too Young!

Membership in Globe Trotters, the pre-teen group for Foreign Service kids, has been expanded to include 9-year-olds (so the age range is from 9-12 years old). Kids can join at any time, but we hope that you will sign up now! For more information about Globe Trotters, please call the FSYF at 301-404-6655 or visit www.fsyf.org.

Foreign Service Youth Foundation

FLO Welcomes New Assistant

The Family Liaison Office welcomes Nancy Dolce, who began work as a Program Assistant in January 2001. Her major responsibilities include helping Foreign Service families who need information in the areas of support services, specifically working with evacuees. Nancy will also work with education and youth programs, specifically the Foreign Service Youth Foundation (FSYF).

Nancy began her overseas experience as a Peace Corps volunteer in Nepal in 1976. She married a fellow Peace Corp Volunteer turned Foreign Service Officer, and in 1984 they were posted to Palermo, Italy. Subsequent tours included Kathmandu (as diplomats rather than

Peace Corps volunteers), Abu Dhabi, Washington, London, and Seoul.

With a background in science, Nancy has taught high school science and math, middle school special education, and English as a Second Language (ESL). She has also worked as an editor, administrative assistant, and medical receptionist. Her volunteer activities include the Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and the American Women of Nepal Scholarship Committee.

A native of Connecticut, Nancy has a B.S. from the University of Hartford. She is married to Department of State employee Rob Dolce, and they have three teenage children. She replaces Ann Hazelwood. Nancy can be reached via email at DolceN@state.gov.

New Honorary President to Join AAFSW Efforts

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tagon, serving as former Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger's military assistant, Mrs. Powell was the Army liaison to the National Red Cross as part of a team of volunteer consultants from the military services. During General Powell's tenure as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, she was the advisor to the Red Cross of the Military District of Washington.

Mrs. Powell is the Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and Chair of the National Council of the "Best Friends" Foundation. She is the recipient of an Honorary Doctor of Human Letters from Emerson College and the Civic Change Award from the Pew Partnership for Civic Change.

AAFSW looks forward to working with Mrs. Powell to help meet the needs of our Foreign Service community members. We welcome the opportunity to benefit from her extensive experience with military families and from her knowledge of family issues.