

Airman 1st Class Clifton T. Lopez
BJC 8-98
Features 6

CLOSET

4-48HB-1 (23.5 - 25.5)

3-24HL-2 (38.5 - 40.5)

Lending Closet helps out
Program loans goods to servicemembers;
Helps new families on post get settled

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CLOSET

Sometimes when service members transfer from one unit to another, they discover they are missing a few household goods. Maybe their belongings haven't arrived yet. Or maybe they are between paychecks and can't afford to purchase important household goods.

Perhaps all that is needed is some cookware, or some dishes, or some things for the baby. And maybe those things are just needed for a short time.

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CLOSET 2-2-2-2

If you find yourself in this situation, the Lending Closet, part of the Army Community Service Relocation Office here, can help you out by loaning you household goods for short periods of time.

The Lending Closet, which is located on the corner of MacArthur and Ernie Pyles road, offers many household goods to service members and their families.

Some of the things that are available for loan include futon mattresses, card tables, chairs, dish packs, called loaner kits, appliance kits and various baby supplies, said Radiance Harris, an employee with the Lending Pantry.

“The loaner kit includes all of your kitchen items that you would need, to include pots, pans and dishes. We have place settings for four people or eight people. Whatever the size of your family is, that is what we would issue you. Everything is in that particular kit, the essential things you would need for the kitchen,” said Harris.

Additionally, the Lending Closet loans appliances in the form of an “Appliance Kit.”

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CLOSET 3-3-3-3

“The appliance kit has a toaster, a coffee maker, and an iron. So that’s the basic things a person would need …,” said Harris.

The Lending Closet serves all members of the Armed Forces and their families.

“We service all military units,” said Harris, “Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and the Coast Guard. We service everybody.”

In addition to military members, the Lending Closet loans supplies to retired military and their families, as well as Department of Defense employees and their families said Harris.

In order to use the Lending Closet, military members doing a Permanent Change of Station need to present a copy of their orders. After that the process is simple.

“They come in and fill out a hand receipt and then it’s issued,” said Harris. “They are responsible for taking it to where they live. They are responsible for returning it in the same condition it was issued in.”

Items borrowed from the lending closet can be borrowed for up to 30 days, said Harris.

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CLOSET 4-4-4-4

The Lending Closet helps about 10 to 15 families a day, during a busy time, said Harris.

One such family, A1C Aaron W. Frost, a Design student at the Defense Information School here, and his wife, recently used the Lending Closet when they moved into their new home on post.

“They gave us a futon mattresses to use for a bed until we could get one here,” said Frost. “They gave us a folding table and folding chairs to use in the dining room, and a kit that had dishes and pots and pans, so we could have something to cook and eat our meals on. They [also] gave us an appliance kit that had a toaster, a coffee pot, and an iron, small appliances we might not have right away.”

Frost’s personal belongings have not arrived yet, him and his wife found the Lending Closet to be a good service.

“If I had to figure it out on my own how to get everything here, it would have been impossible to do. By the time we walked out of there we were fine to live in our apartment!” said Frost.

“We are federally funded by the Department of Defense, we get money to go out and by [new stuff],” said Harris. The Lending Closet cannot take donated items.

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CLOSET 5-5-5-5

The Lending Closet is open from 7:30a.m. until 4p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. It is open from 7:30a.m until Noon on Wednesdays.

The Lending Closet can be reached at 677-6948. Information about related ACS services can be viewed at [Error! Bookmark not defined.](#)

The Lending Closet plays an important part in helping service members make the transition from ones duty station to the next.

Said Harris, “What we’re doing is important because when people come here from other places, just starting out, or graduating from [basic training], they don’t have a lot of household goods. These things tend to serve as temporary things that you probably would not be able to afford, or you are waiting for your own items to come. Why go out and buy more when you can have these. And we lend them for 30 days or less, whatever you need. That is something less that they have to think about.”