

U.S. Air Force’s Project Improves Access to Child Development Centers



Fiscal Year: 2021

Location: CONUS Installations

Company: Oddball, Inc.

Value: \$5.7 million

Office: United States Air Force, Air Force Materiel Command, Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center (AFIMSC)

Project: Kinderspot Application

The Challenge:

The U.S. Air Force allows families to “sublease” spots in their respective base’s Child Development Center (CDC) in the event of temporary-duty assignments or vacations, but the process was difficult to navigate. AFIMSC identified the need to develop a streamlined web-based application for parents of children enrolled in military CDCs to simplify the process for eligible families.

The Solution:

GSA’s Assisted Acquisition Services (AAS) Client Support Center in the Rocky Mountain Region (CSC8) worked closely with AFIMSC to define user experience (UX) design requirements for their proposed web-based application. They also worked together to develop functionality enhancements and an administrative management portal and to integrate the software into the Air Force system. In coordination between AFIMSC and CSC8, Oddball, Inc. was awarded a Phase III contract in 2021 to deploy the Kinderspot application. The Kinderspot application is an Airbnb-type subletting solution with a user-friendly, secure platform for parents of children enrolled in military CDCs and eligible “renters.” Kinderspot enables the subleasing of permanent spots on a short-term basis to support mission schedules.

The Impact:

Through this SBIR project, eligible personnel with children enrolled in CDCs have received a simple, intuitive way to sublease their child’s spot to eligible families who have short-term childcare needs. In addition to receiving credit from CDCs for weeks that are booked by eligible renters thereby saving personnel money, the success of the Kinderspot application is expected to impact resilience and the retention of service members.