



Military Community and Family Policy

Military Community and Family Policy (MC&FP) and Office of Family Policy/Children and Youth/Special Needs Overview

Barbara Thompson

**Director, Office of Family Policy/ Children and Youth/Special Needs
Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense**





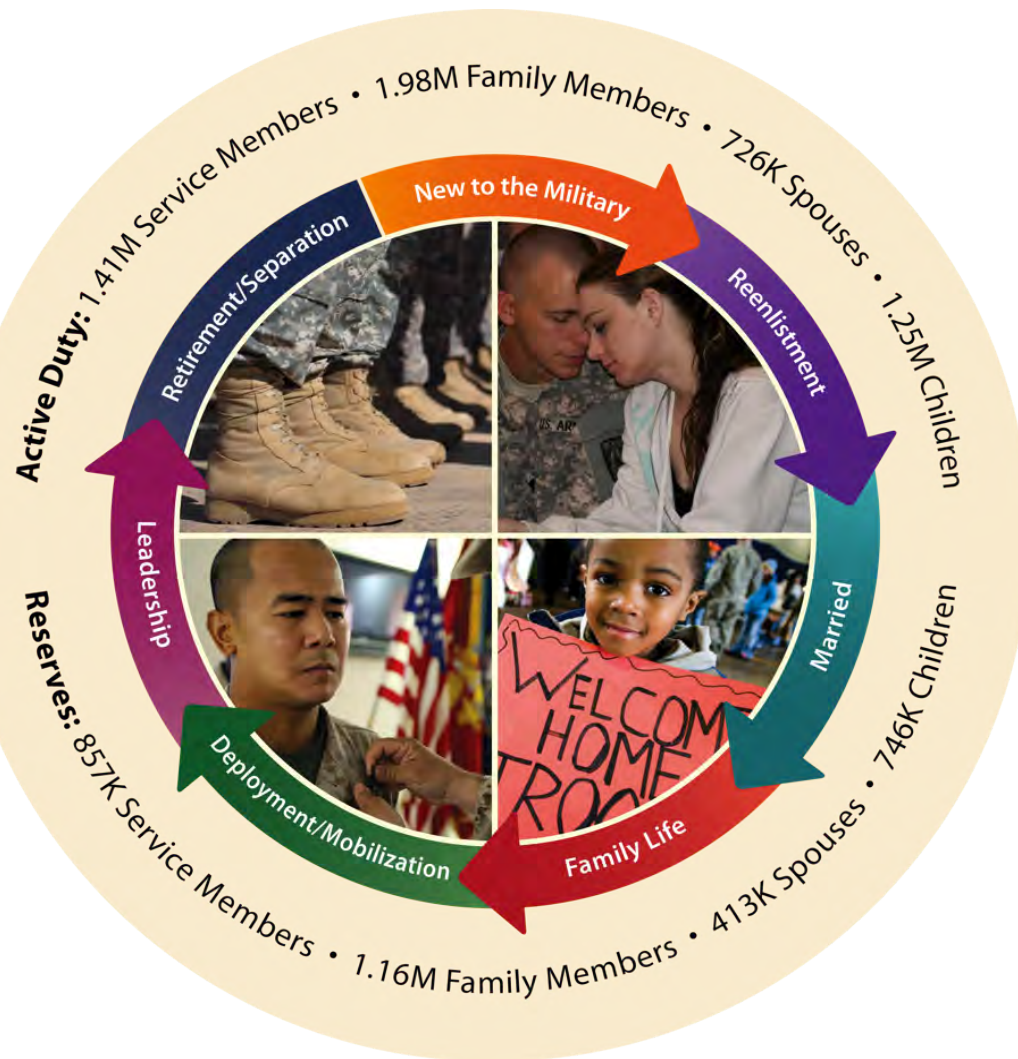
Military Community and Family Pol

Execution

- Military One Source
- Non-medical counseling
- Spouse Education and Career Opportunities (SECO)
- Military Spouse Employment Partnership (MSEP)
- My Career Advancement Account (MyCAA)

Policy Oversight

- Family Support
- Child and Youth Programs
- Casualty Assistance/Mortuary Affairs
- Family Advocacy
- Exceptional Family Member Program
- Morale, Welfare, and Recreation
- Resale (Commissary & Exchange)
- Voluntary Education/Troops to Teachers
- State Liaison





Military Family Readiness*

Definition (from DoDI 1342.22, July 3, 2012)

- **The state of being prepared to effectively navigate the challenges of daily living experienced in the unique context of military service.**
- **Ready individuals and families are:**
 - **Knowledgeable about the potential challenges they may face**
 - **Equipped with the skills to competently function in the face of such challenges**
 - **Aware of the supportive resources available to them**
 - **Make use of the skills and supports in managing such challenges**
- **Includes:**
 - **Mobility and financial readiness**
 - **Mobilization and deployment readiness**
 - **Personal and family life readiness**

*This term and its definition are proposed for inclusion in the next edition of Joint Publication 4-02, "Department of Defense Policy on Military Family Readiness."



Family Readiness System (FRS)

- **The network of agencies, programs, services, and individuals, and the collaboration among them, that promotes the readiness and quality of life of Service members and their families**
- **Service members and their families have primary responsibility for their well-being. Family readiness services enhance members and families' abilities to fulfill that responsibility**



Family Programs as Part of the Family Readiness System

- **Multiple access points:**

- Military and Family Support Centers
- Reserve Component Family Programs
- Joint Family Support Assistance Program*
- Military OneSource
- Military and Family Life Counselors
- Medical Command
- Child and Youth Centers

- **Fully integrated network**

- **Seamless access**

- **Services include:**

- Relocation assistance
- Non-medical individual and family counseling
- Personal and family life education
- Personal financial management services
- Information and referral services
- Deployment assistance
- Spouse Education and Career Opportunities (SECO)
- Exceptional family member services
- Child abuse prevention and response services
- Domestic violence prevention and response services
- Emergency family assistance
- Transition assistance



Military Families Learning Network (MFLN)

- **Serving military family service professionals**
- **The primary concentration areas:**
 - **Personal Finance**
 - **Family Development**
 - **Families with Special Needs**
 - **Caregiver Support**
 - **Network Literacy**
 - **Community Capacity Building**
 - **Military Family Lifecycle Transitions Support**
- **Online communities:**
 - Facebook - facebook.com/militaryfamilies
 - Twitter - twitter.com/milfamln
 - MFLN homepage: <http://blogs.extension.org/militaryfamilies/>
- **Web conferencing: <http://learn.eXtension.org>**
- **Online asynchronous learning modules:**
 - eXtension.org/militaryfamilies





Child Development Program

- **Largest employer sponsored child care program in the country providing support to working parents with children 0 - 12 years of age:**
 - **Serving over 200,000 children daily**
 - **Over 775 child development program facilities and 4,500 family child care homes at 300 military installations worldwide**
- **Multiple delivery systems:**
 - **Child development programs**
 - **School age programs**
 - **Family child care programs**
 - **Off-installation programs**
- **Offering full-day, part-day, and hourly child care, part-day preschools, before & after school programs for school-age children, and deployment related respite childcare**



Youth Program Overview

- **Programs for youth ages 6-18 at 300 installations**
- **Serving approximately 400,000 Youths per year**
- **Providing a wide variety of quality youth programs in settings on and off the military installation:**
 - **Instructional programs**
 - **Recreation sports programs**
 - **Recreation programs tied to individual interests**
 - **Educational and Youth Development Programs**



USDA/LGU Collaboration Efforts

- **Clearinghouse For Military Family Readiness - Penn State University:**
 - Evaluation of evidence and efficacy of Family Support Programs
 - More than 500 programs reviewed, placed on continuum of evidence and fact sheet developed
 - Special efforts focused on support of Exceptional Family Member Program Childhood Obesity and Yellow Ribbon initiatives
 - Technical assistance provided to program owners and implementers
 - www.militaryfamilies.psu.edu
- **Military REACH - University of Minnesota:**
 - Online efforts focused on research and outreach for youth development staff and helping professionals across the family support spectrum
 - Online Training -
 - ✓ Youth Development Staff training
 - ✓ SAC & YD managers and trainer training
 - ✓ Evaluation and Research training
 - Military Family Support Research

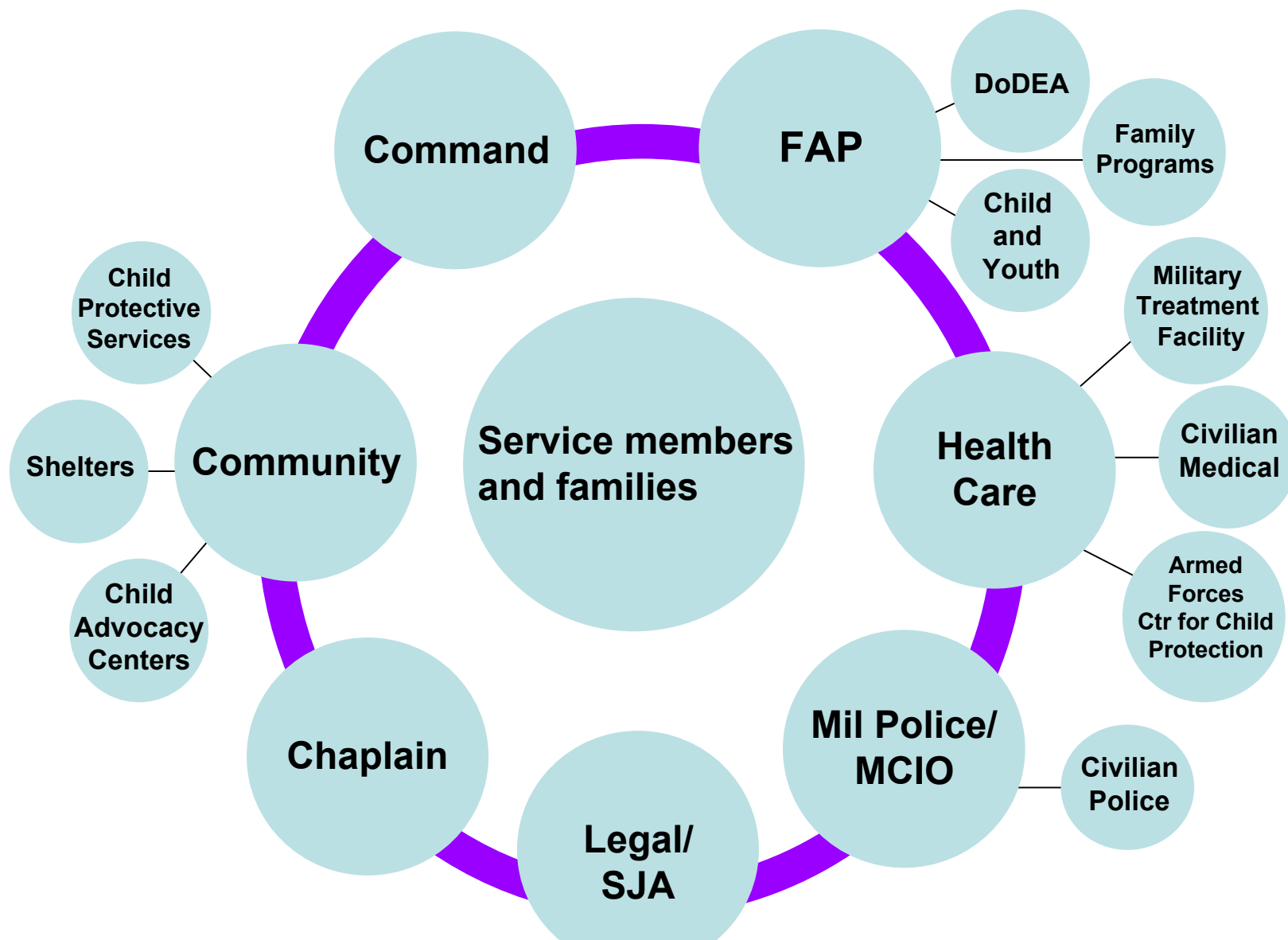


FAP Scope and Mission

- **The Family Advocacy Program (FAP) is a congressionally mandated DoD program designed to be the policy proponent for and a key element of the Department of Defense's Coordinated Community Response system to prevent and respond to reports of child abuse/neglect and domestic abuse in military families - in cooperation with civilian social service agencies and civilian law enforcement.**
- **FAP is located at every CONUS and OCONUS installation with command sponsored families.**
- **The goal for FAP is to promote prevention, early identification, reporting, and treatment of child and spouse abuse and to Strengthen family functioning in a manner that increases the competency and efficacy of military families.**



Coordinated Community Response for Child Abuse/Neglect and Domestic Abuse





Office of Special Needs

- **Among military family members, more than 350,000 may have a special need**

Source: Disability Status Report, 2008-12% of the population

- **Who is a family member with special needs?**
 - **One with a chronic medical condition requiring services from a specialist regardless of age**
 - **A child receiving early intervention services or special education**



National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2010 Section 563

Secretary of Defense establish the *Office of Community Support for Military Families with Special Needs (OSN)* to:

- **Develop a DoD-wide policy for EFMP:**
 - **Identification/Enrollment**
 - **Assignment Coordination**
 - **Family Support Services**
- **Standardize business processes and establish common data system.**
- **Provide oversight of support to military families with special needs.**
- **Military Services to:**
 - **Develop family support programs**
 - **Provide appropriate numbers of case managers**
 - **Develop individualized Services Plans**
 - **Expand assignment coordination - to and within the US**
 - **Stabilize assignments (US) up to four years**



Spouse Education and Career Opportunities



Follow Military OneSource: [f](#) [t](#)

PHASES OF MILITARY LIFE ▾

BRANCH OF SERVICE ▾

THOSE WHO SUPPORT ▾

LOG IN

Call. Click. Connect.

What are you looking for?



800-342-9647

Confidential Help ▾

Military Life Topics ▾

Monthly Focus ▾

Social Media Hub ▾

Spouse Education & Career Opportunities



Do you want a career that you can carry with you the next time you PCS? Whether you are just starting your education, trying to advance in your career, or looking for that next great career opportunity, the Spouse Education and Career Opportunities Program can help you search for information on portable careers, get you started on your education, finalize that perfect resume, or assist you with your career planning. Use these resources, tools, and articles to help you get started!

The Basics

[Family Readiness System](#)

[Military Spouse Employment Partnership \(website\)](#)

[MyCAA \(website\)](#)

[Policy and Legislation](#)

[Spouse Education and Career Opportunities Overview](#)

Employment Readiness

[Creating Your Federal Resume](#)

[Federal Résumé Resources and Information](#)

[Hiring Our Heroes – Job Fairs, Spouse Programs and More!](#)

[Interviewing Tips for Military Spouses](#)

[Job Fair Success Strategies](#)

THE LATEST

[USA4 Military Families - Issue Suggestion Link](#)



Please tell us about the challenges you have encountered as a military family. Many issues surrounding quality of life for military families can only be addressed at the state level. The USA4 Military Families initiative concentrates on working with individual states to resolve such issues. What challenges affect your day-to-day life, your education and employment opportunities? Help inform the state liaisons who work to enact legislation that will help military families.

[Military Academic Advancement Program](#)



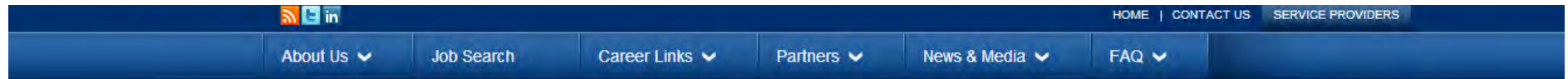
The Department of Defense has partnered with the Department of Agriculture and Kansas State University to offer top quality post-secondary learning opportunities. Through the Military Academic Advancement Program (MAAP), you can obtain a Master's degree or Graduate certificate via online learning. This program is available to service members, spouses, and veterans.

Tools for
SERVICE PROVIDERS

Tools for
LEADERS/COMMAND

INSTALLATION PROGRAM DIRECTORY

Military Spouse Employment Partnership (MSEP)



Career Portal

Login [Sign in](#)

[Register](#) | [Forgot your password?](#) | ☐ I agree with the [Terms of Use](#)



Military Spouses Build Your Career

MSEP expands employment opportunities for military spouses, offering career advice, networking and exclusive access to...

[Learn More](#)

I'm a Military Spouse

Leverage MSEP resources to jumpstart your career. Call 1-800-342-9647.

[Get Started](#)

Job Search

147452 Active Jobs

City State/Province

Country

[Search](#)

[Company](#) [Advanced Search](#)

I'm an Employer

Learn why military spouses make great hires. Call 1-877-940-6737.

[Learn More](#)

» Newest Jobs

Career Development Specialist
The Major Group, Fort Bragg, North Carolina

Career Development Specialist The Major Group, Fort Bragg, North Carolina The Career [Learn More](#)

Videos

[View All](#)



Announcing New Hiring Commitments



Military Family Readiness Council

Created in 2008 to:

- **Review and make recommendations to the Secretary of Defense regarding the policy and plans required under section 1781b of Title X of the U.S. Code**
- **Monitor requirements for the support of military family readiness by the Department of Defense**
- **Evaluate and assess the effectiveness of the military family readiness programs and activities of the Department of Defense**
- **Reports: <http://www.militaryonesource.mil/those-who-support-mfrc>**



Military OneSource



Follow Military OneSource: [f](#) [t](#)

PHASES OF MILITARY LIFE

BRANCH OF SERVICE

THOSE WHO SUPPORT

LOG IN

Call. Click. Connect.

What are you looking for?



800-342-9647

Confidential Help

Military Life Topics

Monthly Focus

Social Media Hub



Military OneSource Tax Service

Our tax consultants work with Military OneSource financial counselors to provide complete solutions to your tax questions.

Learn more

MOST POPULAR on Military OneSource

Shared

Read

Watched/Listened

1. Tax Services
2. Submit Your Comments
3. Military OneSource Tax Filing Services
4. "Space-A" Travel on Military Flights
5. Electronic Sponsorship Application and Training

Military OneSource TWEETS



".@MilitarySaves Week Helps #Troops Get Financially Fit <http://t.co/nrividT3P9d> #milfam #sot #milkids"

"We regret that the #Milfam Readiness Council meeting scheduled for 2/28 has been cancelled. New date coming soon: <http://t.co/KlKQrSQDN9>"

"What is an Ounce of Prevention Worth to You? <http://t.co/koAf8ggPhv> #milfam #sot"

"The Successful Saver contest ends TODAY! Be sure to enter: <http://t.co/GyMypczApK> #milfam <http://t.co/EtUSwLKhW7>"

"Power of Attorney Basics: <http://t.co/evCrhetKog> #deployment #sot #milfam"

Join the conversation

BLOG BRIGADE



Starting a New Diet

by Melissa on Wed, 12 Feb 2014

This year, it turns out I am a "resolutioner." You know, that lovely term given to anyone that starts a new diet or workout plan in January regardless of whether it is actually for a resolution, or in my case, just the timing that it all happened. Is this the first diet I have ever ... [read more]

ePUBLICATIONS



INSTALLATION LOCATOR

Quickly look up information on your installation.

Name of installation

View a directory of installations

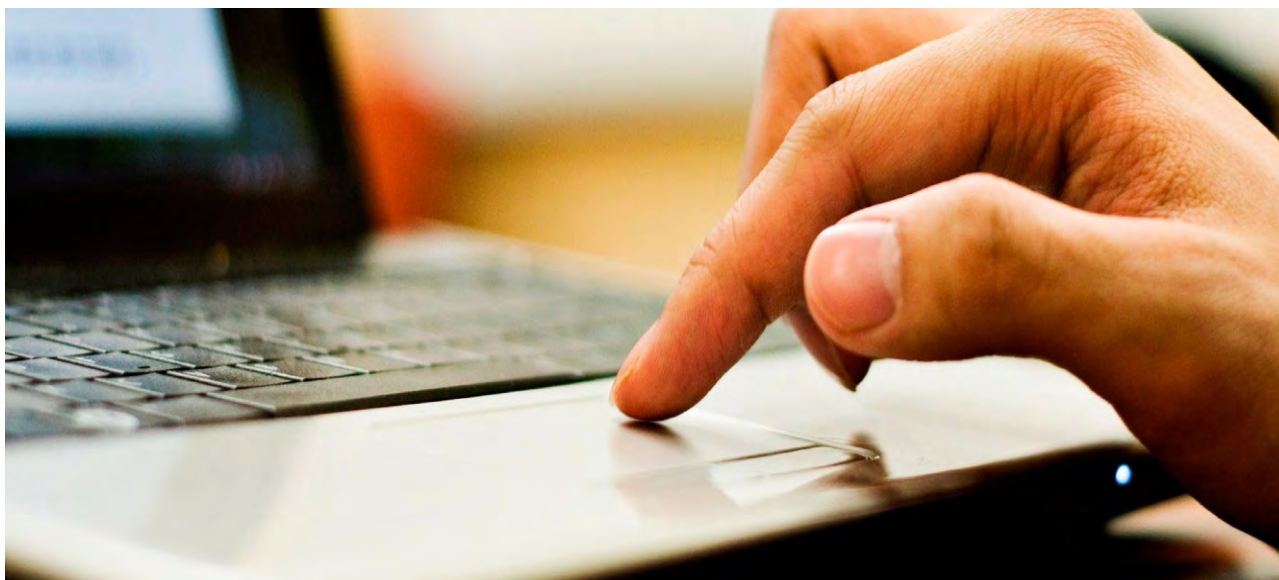


or state name



How MOS Can Help

Linking to Military OneSource



Call. 800-342-9647

Click. MilitaryOneSource.mil

Connect. 24/7



To learn more about linking to the Military OneSource website, visit the Military OneSource homepage at www.militaryonesource.mil, scroll to the footer and select About Military OneSource.

- **Quickly connect service members and their families to trusted information.**
- **Immediately link them to important tools and resources.**



Confidential Help



Follow Military OneSource: [f](#) [t](#)

PHASES OF MILITARY LIFE [v](#)

BRANCH OF SERVICE [v](#)

THOSE WHO SUPPORT [v](#)

LOG IN

Call. Click. Connect.

What are you looking for?



800-342-9647

Confidential Help [v](#) | Military Life Topics [v](#) | Monthly Focus [v](#) | Social Media Hub [v](#)

Contact a Military OneSource consultant now

800.342.9647

Military Crisis Line

800.273.TALK (8255)

DoD Safe Helpline
Sexual Assault Support

877.995.5247

Confidential services, including [non-medical counseling](#) and [specialty consultations](#), are available through Military OneSource. Eligible individuals may receive confidential services at no cost. [Check eligibility](#). [International Calling Options](#).

Non-Medical Counseling

Face-to-Face Counseling

Online Counseling

Telephonic Counseling

Specialty Consultations

Adoption

Adult Disability Care

Education

Elder Care

Health and Wellness

Coaching

Special Needs

Wounded Warrior

Other Services and Counseling

Document Translation

Financial Counseling

Language Interpretation Services

SECO Counseling

Tax Services

Log in for counseling

Log in to your Military OneSource account to access online counseling services.

LOG IN

Don't have a login yet?
[Check eligibility and register now](#)

BLOG BRIGADE

Starting a New Diet

by Melissa on Wed, 12 Feb 2014

This year, it turns out I am a "resolutioner." You know, that lovely term given to anyone that starts a new diet or workout plan in January regardless of whether it is actually for a resolution, or in my case, just the timing that it all happened. Is this the first diet I have ever ... [\[read more\]](#)

"We regret that the #Milfam Readiness Council meeting scheduled for 2/28 has been cancelled. New date coming soon: <http://t.co/KlKQrSQDN9>"

"What is an Ounce of Prevention Worth to You?
<http://t.co/koAf8ggPhv> #milfam #sot"

"The Successful Saver contest ends TODAY! Be sure to enter: <http://t.co/GyMypczApK> #milfam
<http://t.co/EtUSwLKhW7>"

"Power of Attorney Basics: <http://t.co/evCrhetKog>
#deployment #sot #milfam"

[Join the conversation](#)

ePUBLICATIONS



INSTALLATION LOCATOR

Quickly look up information on your installation.

Name of installation

[View a directory of installations](#)





Counseling Support

- **Two sources of support**
 - **Military OneSource**
 - **Military Family Life Counselors**
- **Private and confidential**
- **Individuals, couples, families, groups**
 - **Non-medical**
 - **Short-term**
 - **Situational**
 - **Problem solving**
- **Master's and PhD level mental health professionals licensed to practice independently**
- **Up to 12 sessions per issue**
- **No cost to Active Duty, National Guard, and Reserve members or family members**





Military Community and Family Policy

Questions



Contact

Barbara Thompson

Barbara.a.thompson148.civ@mail.mil

571-372-0874



Resources

Spouse Education and Career Opportunities (SECO) and Military Spouse Employment Program (MSEP):

<https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil>

<https://msejobs.militaryonesource.mil>

<https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/mycaa>

Family Programs:

www.militaryonesource.mil/deployment/joint-family-support-assistance-program?content_id=267472

www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil

www.extension.org/militaryfamilies

www.extension.org/pages/62581/military-families-learning-network-webinars

Children & Youth:

apps.militaryonesource.mil/myom

www.MilitaryKidsConnect.org

www.militaryfamilies.psu.edu

Military Family Readiness Council:

<http://www.militaryonesource.mil/those-who-support-mfrc>

Peer Support:



C&Y Resources

<http://www.bgca.org/meetourpartners/Pages/MilitaryPartnership.aspx> - *Mission Youth Outreach* which allows geographically dispersed Active, Guard, and Reserve youth to attend a local Boys & Girls Club at no cost to the family

<http://www.trevorromain.com/category/military/uso/> - *Trevor Romain* DVDs/books part of deployment kits designed to support families with children who have a family member deployed with the U.S. Military

www.sittercity.com/ - Sittercity helps you find experienced babysitters and nannies in your area. And with features like detailed profiles, background checks, references and reviews, we make the process safe and easy

www.tutor.com/military - Eligible military service members and their dependents can work with a certified, professional tutor career specialist online 24/7 to get help with homework, studying and test prep. Service members may also get help with resume writing and job searching

<http://militarychild.org> - A non-profit, world-wide organization, the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)'s work is focused on ensuring quality educational opportunities for all military children affected by mobility, family separation, and transition

<http://www.zerotothree.org/about-us/funded-projects/military-families/> - A DoD-sponsored initiative in collaboration with ZERO TO THREE, a national nonprofit organization that informs, trains, and supports professionals, policymakers and parents in their efforts to improve the lives of infants and toddlers

<https://www.familiesnearandfar.org/login/> - Sesame Street Free resources and tools for military families

<http://www.sesamestreet.org/parents/topicsandactivities/toolkits/tlc> - Military families, Sesame Street salutes you and supports you! *Talk, Listen, Connect*, offers you strategies and resources to help your children through difficult periods of transition and separation that can come with military service. And don't forget to check out Military Families Near and Far, a special Web site where your family can create, communicate, and stay connected

<http://militaryk12partners.dodea.edu> - The grant program provides resources to military-connected local educational agencies (LEAs) to develop and implement projects

<http://www.stayingstrong.org> - Online tool that supports military parents for addiction, as well as a section for educators

www.militaryparenting.org - A new online course, developed by the Department of Defense and Veterans Affairs, that provides military parents with the tools they need to strengthen their existing parenting skills and reconnect with their families. Many of the techniques in the course are specifically tailored to address the unique challenges of military life.

<http://futureofchildren.org/futureofchildren/index.xml> - The mission of the *Future of Children* is to translate the best science research about children and youth into information that is useful to policymakers, practitioners, parent makers, educators



Service Members and Families Resources

<http://www.army.mil/community/> - Reaching out to installation commander to identify POCs in each area and to see what other communities are doing

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/joiningforces/get-involved> - To find ideas to support military members and their families

<http://www.letsmove.gov/lets-move-meetup> - *Let's Move!* and *Meetup Everywhere* make it easy for parents, teachers, chefs, elected officials and others to take action by organizing or participating in face-to-face meetings dedicated to solving the problem of childhood obesity in their local communities

<http://www.yellowribbon.mil> - Promoting the well-being of National Guard and Reserve members and their families and communities, by connecting them with resources throughout the deployment cycle

<http://jfsap.mhf.dod.mil> - The Joint Family Support Assistance Team (JFSAP) delivering mobile family support and services to families facing the same deployment-related challenges as installation-based families, but whose access to support is more challenging

<http://www.va.gov/jobs/> - Veterans Employment Coordination Service (VECS) is VA's lead office to attract, recruit, hire, and retain Veterans, particularly severely injured Veterans

<http://www.finra.org> and <http://www.saveAndInvest.org/militarycenter> - A multifaceted program that includes online and on-the-ground training to make sure you're supported at key financial milestones

<http://www.sesamestreet.org/parents/topicsandactivities/toolkits/tlc> - Military families, Sesame Street salutes you and supports you! *Talk, Listen, Connect*, offers you strategies and resources to help your children through difficult periods of transition and separation that can come with military service. And don't forget to check out Military Families Near and Far, a special Web site where your family can create, communicate, and stay connected



Defense Center of Excellence (DCoE) Resources

<http://www.dcoe.mil> - The mission of the DCoE for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) is to improve the lives of our nation's service members, families and veterans by advancing excellence in psychological health and traumatic brain injury prevention and care.

http://www.dcoe.mil/MediaCenter/News/details/14-06-03/Get_Smart_on_DCoE_Resources_Catalog_Offers_Easy_Access_to_Programs_Tools.aspx - resources on psychological health and traumatic brain injury will find a comprehensive list in the Defense Centers of Excellence Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury (DCoE) Resource Catalog.

<http://www.afterdeployment.org> and www.T2health.org - Telehealth & Technology (T2) leading the innovation health technology solutions by delivering tested, valued solutions that improve the lives of our Nation's Warriors, Veterans, and their families

Current APP Products Available:

- Tactical Breather
- Breathe2Relax
- T2 Mood Tracker
- PTSD Coach
- mTBI PocketGuide

The **AfterDeployment Provider Portal** includes easy access to clinical practice guidelines, educational resources other tools to promote evidence based treatment for the DoD population.

<http://militarykidsconnect.dcoe.mil> - improves child and family readiness throughout the deployment cycle. Educators unfamiliar with unique needs of military families are connected with resources and education.

<http://www.suicideoutreach.org> - centralizes suicide prevention resources; provides suicide facts, risk factors, steps for taking action and for dealing with grief reactions.

MilitaryMentalHealth.org (<http://www.dcoe.mil/Training/Education.aspx>) - provides referral to behavioral health care using anonymous Web site. Helps organization and school leadership implement psycho-educational worksh



Education Resources

<http://stopbullying.gov> - Understanding and recognizing bullying in schools and communities

<http://www.ecu.edu/che/alliance/> - Optimize the preparedness of behavioral health providers working to enhance the resilience, recovery and reintegration of Service members, Veterans, and their Family members and communities throughout the military, post-military and family life cycles

<http://militaryk12partners.dodea.edu> - The grant program provides resources to military connected local educational agencies (LEAs) to develop and implement projects

<http://militarykidsconnect.org> - Military Kids Connect, offers military children an online community where they can learn about deployments, recognize and share feelings, and develop coping skills. Psychologists from the DOD's National Center for Telehealth and Technology developed the site to build on military kids' strength and resilience, especially they deal with the unique stressors of military life

<http://www.tcpress.com/militaryfamilies.html> - Endorsed by the DODEA, collection of books to help pre- and in-service educators understand and better serve children from military families. Guide for school administrators; teachers, school counselors, psychologists; social workers; and parents

<http://www.stayingstrong.org> - Online tool that supports military parents for addiction, as well as a section for educators