



Inside this Issue:

Resource Spotlight–School Liaison Program

Tax Preparation Resources

News You Can Use

Fleet and Family April Workshop Schedule

Resource Guide

Navigating the Navy Lifestyle— COMPASS

NMCSD Command Ombudsman

Kimberly Harris (619) 921-1168 kimberly.harris@med.navy.mil NMCSD_ombudsman1@yahoo.com



NMCSD Website: http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcsd/ Pages/default.aspx

Ombudsman Newsletter

Naval Medical Center San Diego

APRIL—Month of the Military Child

April is the Month of the Military Child. This month long observance recognizes the sacrifices and celebrates the youngest family members that serve.

MCCS programs at MCRD San Diego presents Month of the Military Child Events

April 4, 2011 10 a.m.— 12 p.m. **Tell Me A Story** Parents and children are welcome to listen to a story and connect through literature.

April 5, 2011

1–4 p.m. Who Moved My Cheese for Kids! Interactive workshop providing skills to enable children to better handle the changing environment of the military.

April 6, 2011 9 a.m.– 1 p.m. In the Midst for Kids "Safari Field Guide" Get ready for a Safari adven-

ture! Just like a Safari tour, military children sometimes need a guide to get them through military challenges. MCCS programs join together to create an interactive workshop focusing on feelings, being unique, making good choices, drug and alcohol awareness, being a kid, and the importance of their roles in family and community.

April 8, 2011 9 a.m.– 3 p.m. L.I.N.K.S. for Teens Enabling teens to meet other

military teens and learn about

topics such as community involvement, moving, separation, anti-bullying, and cyber safety. Light refreshments will be served.

April 12, 2011 9:30 a.m.— 12 p.m.

Activity Morning

Bring your 0-5 year old to Activity Morning for crafts, stories, and play! An opportunity for parents and children to socialize.

April 12, 2011 9:30 a.m.– 12 p.m. L.I.N.K.S. for kids (6-12 yrs.)

For additional information, contact Tracy Genica at 619-524-8030 or genicate@usmcmccs.org

A Note From Your Ombudsman

The Ombudsman program is a Command operated program intended to improve communication between the Command and a Sailor's family members. The program was introduced to the U.S. Navy on 14 September 1970 by the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Elmo Zumwalt. Admiral Zumwalt adapted this program from a 19th century Scandinavian custom originally established by the King to give ordinary private citizens an avenue to express their grievances to high government officials. The primary focus of the Navy Family Ombudsman program is to provide information and referral services to the families.

What is an Ombudsman?

Selected by the commanding officer (CO), your Navy Family ombudsman is a spouse of a command member who voluntarily serves as the official liaison between the command and its families. The ombudsman is a vital resource to assist the command in discharging the CO's responsibilities for the morale and welfare of the command's families.

The ombudsman is the link between the command and the Navy family. This is especially true in deploying commands, where the ombudsman is the primary point of contact between the families at home and the command during deployment. As a spouse, it is important to get acquainted with your local ombudsman. The ombudsman is not a counselor or a social worker, but can show you a direct route to getting the assistance you need to find solutions and resources.

Interested in Volunteering as Ombudsman?

The Command is currently looking to add to the Ombudsman Team. If you are interested in becoming part of the NMCSD Command Ombudsman team, please email Kimberly Harris for further information.

April 2011

Resource Spotlight–School Liaison Officer Program

What can a School Liaison Officer Do For You?

School Liaison Officers are in place to serve as a central point of contact between military parents, school systems, Commanders and communities. Starting with Kindergarten Readiness up through Graduation your School Liaison Officer can offer resources and support with:

- Information on local schools and boundaries
- Assistance with school selection (charter, private, public, virtual)
- Communicate with teachers, principals and school personnel
- Home schooling regulations and support
- Inbound/outbound school transfer guidance and prep

- Interstate Compact information
- Graduation requirements
- Scholarship information
- Schools & community outreach
- Understanding the special education process
- Referrals to appropriate DOE, military and civilian agencies
- Identify resources that facilitate school success, school transitions and relationships
- College readiness
- Mobilize community resources
- Initiating school and community outreach and partnerships

A top priority is to provide parents, students and educators timely and relevant information to enhance learning and promote academic success and a positive education experience overall.

To access your local School Liaison for great educational resources to support your child's positive academic experience, contact a Regional School Liaison Officer:

USMC Anissa Stewart (760) 583-0683 Anissa.Stewart@USMC.mil

USN Shannon Milder (619) 532-4251 Shannon.Milder@Navy.mil





Tax Preparation Resources

Due to the observance of the Emancipation Day holiday in the District of Columbia, government officials have pushed the nation's tax filing deadline from April 15 to April 18. Sailors and their families can receive free tax advice, tax preparation and related assistance on-site, online or by telephone from the following sources.

Military OneSource Tax Filing Services

H&R Block at Home Basic[®], through the Military OneSource website and telephonic tax consultations, provides free access to a customized version of the basic H&R Block at Home electronic tax-filing product. This customized product allows for free federal filing and state filing (up to three states). Provided by the Department of Defense, H&R Block At Home Basic is available to activeduty, National Guard, and Reserve service members and their families. Tax consultants are available seven days a week from 7:00 a.m.-11:00 p.m. Eastern Standard Time (EST). Contact Military OneSource Tax Hotline at 1-800-730-3802 or go to Military OneSource Tax Filing Services at www.militaryonesource.com/MOS/ FindInformation/Category/TaxFilingServices.aspx.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program

More than 100 Navy Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Centers around the world are now open for business. On-site services are available to assist service members and their family members with free tax advise, tax preparation and return filing by IRS-trained volunteers. VITA services will remain available through April 18. Some overseas sites, as well as selected sited to assist those returning from a recent deployment, will remain open longer. To find a nearest VITA center, visit the Navy Jag Corps at <u>http://</u> www.jag.navy.mil.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS)

For additional tax questions and/or combat zone information, call 1-800-829-1040 or go to IRS.gov for tax information for military members.

Along with the filing extension, there are several new and existing tax laws military members and their spouses should keep in min as the deadline draws near. Information on these laws can be found at <u>http://www.defense.gov/News/</u><u>NewsArticle.aspx?ID=63252</u>.

News You Can Use



Exercise your right to vote!

No matter where you are in the world, you can still register to vote and vote absentee. The Federal Voting Assistance Program's website, <u>www.fvap.gov</u>, has easy to follow instructions and information on voting. For further questions, their phone number is 1-800-438-VOTE (8683). You can also contact NMCSD's Voting Assistance Representatives for help:

LT Melissa Bersamina Office: 619-545-0424 Email: <u>melissa.bersamina@med.navy.mil</u> HMC Frederick Schucht Office: 619-524-4056 Email: <u>frederick.schucht@med.navy.mil</u>



Stay In Touch With Your Medical Home Port Provider

Staying in tough with your provider just got easier with NMCSD Online (powered by Relay Health). You can now contact your provider *anytime, anywhere,* from any Internet connection. It's easy and secure. For your nonurgent needs, you may even save yourself an office visit. No more waiting on-hold for appointments or medication refills. No more talking to people other than your doctor about private matters. With NMCSD On-line, you can:

- Email your provider
- Schedule your next appointment
- Check your lab results
- Request a medication renewal for expired prescription or one with 0/3 refills
- Access health information to manage your health
- Create your own personal health record, especially useful for those managing a chronic condition

Look for more details on this exciting new resource in May's Ombudsman Newsletter or access the NMCSD website at http://www.med.navy.mil/sites/nmcsd/Patients/Pages/MedicalHome.aspx.



ID Card Changes—Social Security Number Removal

The DoD is removing Social Security Numbers from ID Cards. To protect your privacy and personal identity information, your Social Security Number (SSN) is being replaced with a DoD ID Number on all ID cards.

ID Card Changes:

- As of June 2011, SSNs will no longer be printed on any new ID card.
- SSN removal will occur in three phases.
- Your new ID card will have a DoD ID Number in place of your SSN.
- Your DoD ID Number will be used as the Geneva Conventions serial number.
- If you are eligible for DoD benefits, there will also be a DoD Benefits Number printed on your new ID card.

Please note that your current ID card should not be replaced until your card is within 30 days of its expiration date. If your IR card has an INDEF expiration date, and you would like your SSN removed, contact your nearest RAPIDS ID card facility for an appointment. <u>Visit the RAPIDS Site Locator at www.dmdc.osd.mil/rsl/owa/home</u> to find a location near you.



Operation Purple

Each summer, the National Military Family Association Operation Purple Program offers summer camps to children of deployed service members. The goal of these camps is to impart the message that kids serve too. Each camp is joint, or "purple", (which includes all services) and is offered free of charge to all participants. The camps, which last from five to seven days, let military kids experience carefree fun while learning coping skills for deployment related stress. The Operation Purple program also includes leadership camps for teens, family retreats at national parks, and camps geared to address the needs of children and families of our Nation's wounded services members.

Information on the 2011 season will be available soon at http://www.operationpurple.org.

Fleet & Family Workshops

Call our Centralized Scheduling Center number to register for any workshop: 1(866) 923-6478

Find Us Online: http://www.cnic.navy.mil/CNRSW/FleetFamilyReadiness/index.htm - Find Us on Facebook - http://www.facebook.com/FFCPSanDiego



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DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT

Deployment Readiness Workshop Apr 8, Fri, 8:30 AM - 9:30 AM, FFSC FRE

Homecoming Workshop

Apr 26, Tue, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

IA Deployment Readiness Workshop Apr 22, Fri, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC FRE

Managing Deployment Workshop Apr 5, Tue, 6:30 PM - 7:30 PM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

Mid Deployment Workshop Apr 13, Wed, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC FRE

EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM (EFMP) SUPPORT

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Orientation

Apr 6, Wed, 5 PM - 6 PM, FFSC MCB Apr 6, Wed, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC FRE Apr 12, Tue, 9 AM - 10 AM, FFSC NBPL Apr 18, Mon, 2 PM - 3 PM, FFSC BVH Apr 19, Tue, 10 AM - 11 AM, FFSC VSM Apr 20, Wed, 3 PM - 4 PM, FFSC FRE Apr 25, Mon, 5 PM - 6 PM, FFSC NBSD

EMPLOYMENT & TRANSITION ASSISTANCE

Finding Federal Employment

Apr 4, Mon, 5 PM - 7 PM, FFSC NBSD Apr 5, Tue, 9 AM - 11 AM, FFSC NBSD Apr 12, Tue, 9 AM - 11 AM, FFSC NBPL Apr 13, Wed, 9 AM - 11 AM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124 Apr 21, Thu, 9 AM - 11 AM, FFSC NBC Apr 22, Fri, 9 AM - 10 AM, FFSC FRE

Introduction to Owning Your Own Business

Apr 11, Mon, 5 PM - 7 PM, FFSC NBSD Apr 12, Tue, 9 AM - 11 AM, FFSC NBSD Apr 21, Thu, 5 PM - 7 PM, FFSC NBC

Job Search Strategies

Apr 13, Wed, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM, FFSC FRE

Resume Writing

Apr 7, Thu, 9 AM - 11 AM, FFSC NBC Apr 7, Thu, 9 AM - 11 AM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124 Apr 8, Fri, 2 PM - 3 PM, FFSC FRE Apr 13, Wed, 10 AM - 12 PM, FFSC VSM Apr 18, Mon, 5 PM - 7 PM, FFSC NBSD Apr 19, Tue, 9 AM - 11 AM, FFSC NBSD Apr 19, Tue, 9 AM - 10 AM, FFSC FRE Apr 27, Wed, 10 AM - 12 PM, FFSC VSM

Winning Interview Techniques

Apr 5, Tue, 9 AM - 11 AM, FFSC NBPL Apr 7, Thu, 10 AM - 11 AM, FFSC FRE Apr 14, Thu, 9 AM - 11 AM, FFSC NBC Apr 20, Wed, 10 AM - 12 PM, FFSC NSM Apr 25, Mon, 5 PM - 7 PM, FFSC NBSD Apr 26, Tue, 9 AM - 11 AM, FFSC NBSD

EDUCATION ASSISTANCE

Department of Veterans Affairs GI Bill 101 Apr 20, Wed, 5 PM - 6:30 PM, FFSC Murphy Canyon Branch Troops to Teachers Program Overview Apr 11, Mon, 4 PM - 5 PM, FFSC NBSD

INDIVIDUAL AUGMENTEE (IA) SUPPORT

Individual Augmentee (IA) Family Connection Meeting Apr 12, Tue, 6 PM - 8 PM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

Individual Augmentee (IA) Family Homecoming Workshop Apr 20, Wed, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM, FFSC NBSD

Individual Augmentee (IA) Sailor & Family Deployment Readiness Brief Apr 19, Tue, 6 PM - 7:30 PM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

Returned Individual Augmentee (IA) Workshop

Apr 21, Thu, 8 AM - 11:30 AM, FFSC NBSD

PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Car Buying Strategies Apr 21, Thu, 3 PM - 4:30 PM, FFSC NBPL Apr 21, Thu, 3 PM - 4:30 PM, FFSC VSM Apr 28, Thu, 3 PM - 4:30 PM, FFSC BVH

Consumer Awareness / Tax Tips Apr 4, Mon, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM, FFSC FRE Apr 4, Mon, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC FRE Apr 5, Tue, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

Our mobile FFSC, the Family Readiness Express (FRE), will be in Prospect View housing in April! FFSC FRE's address: 8700 Redwood Drive, Santee CA 92071. Hours: Mon-Fri: 7:30AM-4:30PM. 858-431-6382.

Child care is available for classes held at the Murphy Canyon Chapel. Please call to arrange at least one week in advance: (619) 556-0031.

Fleet & Family Workshops April 2011

Credit Management: Using Credit Wisely

Apr 18, Mon, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM, FFSC FRE Apr 18, Mon, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC FRE Apr 28, Thu, 2 PM - 3:30 PM, FFSC NBC

Developing Your Spending Plan

Apr 11, Mon, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM, FFSC FRE Apr 11, Mon, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC FRE Apr 20, Wed, 3 PM - 4:30 PM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124 Apr 27, Wed, 2 PM - 3:30 PM, FFSC NBSD

Home Buying Apr 21, Thu, 1 PM - 4 PM, FFSC NBC

Military Pay Issues

Apr 26, Tue, 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

Million Dollar Sailor/Spouse Workshop Apr 5 - 6, Tue - Wed, 8 AM - 4 PM, FFSC NBPL

Planning for Your Retirement Apr 19, Tue, 2 PM - 3 PM, FFSC NBSD

Saving and Investing

Apr 25, Mon, 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM, FFSC FRE Apr 25, Mon, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC FRE Apr 26, Tue, 2 PM - 3:30 PM, FFSC NBPL

Survivor Benefits Plan (SBP) Apr 7, Thu, 3 PM - 4 PM, FFSC VSM Apr 14, Thu, 3 PM - 4 PM, FFSC BVH

Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) Apr 12, Tue, 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

Transferring within CONUS:

More Resources & Less Stress for Your Next PCS!

Apr 6, Wed, 9 AM - 10:30 AM, FFSC VSM Apr 14, Thu, 1:30 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC FRE Apr 19, Tue, 1 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC NBSD Apr 28, Thu, 9 AM - 10:30 AM, FFSC NBPL

Transferring Overseas: More Resources & Less Stress for Your Next PCS!

Apr 5, Tue, 9 AM - 10:30 AM, FFSC NBSD Apr 14, Thu, 9 AM - 10:30 AM, FFSC NBPL Apr 20, Wed, 1 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC VSM Apr 26, Tue, 1 PM - 2:30 PM, FFSC NBC

Fly for Free: Space A Travel

Apr 6, Wed, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM, FFSC VSM Apr 21, Thu, 10 AM - 11 AM, FFSC FRE

LIFE SKILLS EDUCATION

Building Effective Anger Management Skills (BEAMS)

Apr 27, Wed, 2 PM - 4 PM, NMCSD, Bldg 26, 1st Floor, Wellness Center

Building Self Esteem and Assertiveness Apr 12, Tue, 1 PM - 3 PM, FFSC NBSD

Dealing with Stress Apr 6, Wed, 2 PM - 4 PM, NMCSD, Bldg 26, 1st Floor, Wellness Center

Effective Communication in the Workplace

Apr 19, Tue, 2 PM - 4 PM, FFSC NBSD

Responsible Anger Management Apr 7 - 8, Thu - Fri, 9 AM - 4 PM, FFSC NBSD Apr 21 - 22, Thu - Fri, 9 AM - 4 PM, FFSC NBSD

FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION & ENRICHMENT

Active Duty Pregnancy Resources Workshop

Apr 6, Wed, 1 PM - 4 PM, FFSC NBSD Apr 13, Wed, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM, FFSC NBC Apr 20, Wed, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM, NBPL

Basic Home Organization Apr 5, Tue, 9 AM - 10 AM, FFSC FRE

Couples Communication Apr 27, Wed, 5 PM - 7 PM, FFSC MCB

Dads and Discipline Apr 28, Thu, 5 PM - 7 PM, FFSC MCB

Developing Your Family Care Plan Apr 19, Tue, 9 AM - 10 AM, FFSC NBC Apr 28, Thu, 9 AM - 10 AM, FFSC NBSD

Effective Parenting Workshop (4 Sessions, every Tuesday) Apr 5, 12, 19, 26, 9 AM - 4 PM, FFSC NBSD

Healthy Kids and Nutrition Apr 13, Wed, 2 PM - 3 PM, FFSC BVH Apr 27, Wed, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM, FFSC VSM

Helping Children Cope with Disaster Apr 20, Wed, 2 PM - 3 PM, FFSC BVH

How to Communicate with Your Teen Apr 19, Tue, 5 PM - 6 PM, FFSC MCB

International Spouse Tea Time Apr 26, Tue, 10 AM - 11:30 AM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

Making A Welcome Home Banner Apr 14, Thu, 10 AM - 11 AM, FFSC FRE

Parenting Tips

Apr 6, Wed, 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM, FFSC BVH Apr 13, Wed, 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM, FFSC VSM Apr 20, Wed, 10 AM - 12 PM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

Spouse Readiness Workshop:

Resources for the Military Family Apr 12, Tue, 5 PM - 7 PM, Murphy Canyon Chapel, 3200 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124 Apr 27, Wed, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM, FFSC BVH

Kids' Play Time (Ages 1-5)

Apr 8, Fri, 10 AM - 11 AM, FFSC FRE Apr 12, Tue, 10 AM - 11:30 AM, First Baptist Lemon Grove, 2910 Main Street, Lemon Grove, CA 91941

Preschool Blocks (Ages 3-5)

Apr 21, Thu, 10 AM - 11:30 AM, Murphy Canyon Youth Center Park, 4867 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

Toddler Time (Ages 1-3) Apr 14, Thu, 10 AM - 11:30 AM, Murphy Canyon Youth Center Park, 4867 Santo Rd, SD CA 92124

Notable Quote:

"Military life is tough, but misery is optional."

- Beth Wilson

Resource Guide

American Red Cross (messages/family)	800-951-5600	Miramar youth Center (Drop-Ins)	858-577-4136
American Red Cross (Message/active duty)	877-272-7337	MWR Tickets (NBSD)	619-556-2180
American Red Cross (Programs)	858-309-1200	Naval Legal Services (NBSD)	619-556-2211
Armed Services YMCA Outreach	858-751-5755	Naval Medical Center (Quarterdeck)	619-532-6400
Child Abuse Hotline	858-560-2191	Navy College (NBSD)	619-556-4922
Child Care Resource & Referral (Enrollment)	619-556-8491	Navy Lodge (All)	800-628-9466
Commissary (NBSD)	619-556-8657	Navy-Marine Corp Relief Society (NBSD)	619-556-8283
Commissary (NBC)	619-545-6560	New Parent Support (NBSD)	619-556-8825
CREDO / Spiritual Fitness Guide	619-556-2826	Operation Homefront	866-424-5210
DEERS Enrollment Center (DMDC)	800-334-4162	Personal Property (Household Goods)	619-556-6683
DFAS & Military Pay Center	888-332-7411	PSD (NBSD)	619-556-2004
Family Advocacy Center	619-556-8809	TRIWEST	888-TRI-WEST
Fleet & Family Support Center (NBSD)	619-556-7404	TRICARE Dental Program	800-866-8499
Fleet & Family Support Center (NBC)	619-545-6071	United Services Organization (USO)	619-235-6503
Healthy Start MFC	858-496-0044	WIC	800-500-6411
Housing (Referrals & Assignments)	619-556-8443		
ID Card Lab (NBSD)	619-556-9249	Community Health, Disaster Services & Information	
Medical (All TRICARE Appointments)	619-532-8225	24-hour access to community, health, disaster services infor- mation and referrals in Southern CA, Dial 2-1-1 from land line or 858-300-1211 from cell phone.	
Medical (NMC-SD One-Stop)	877-262-6476		
Military One Source	800-342-9647		

Navigating the Navy Lifestyle

Whether your new to the Navy family or looking to learn more about the Navy lifestyle there are many great resources available to you.

COMPASS provides courses from experienced, trained volunteer souses that offer valuable insight and knowledge to help make your journey as a Navy spouse successful. COMPASS courses are free of charge and breakfast, lunch, and childcare are provided.

The COMPASS program offers you an opportunity to:

- Make new friends and enjoy being a part of the Navy family
- Learn about the Navy Lifestyle from spouse mentors
- Acquire the knowledge and develop the skills to successfully meet the challenges ahead
- Develop realistic expectations, adaptability and a positive attitude

Chart Your Course With COMPASS Navigating the Maze

Benefits and Services—Learn about the resources and websites that can provide you assistance and information.

Anchors Aweigh

Dealing with Deployment: Emotional Cycle, Separation and Reunion— Learn how to deal with deployments and how deployments can be a positive self-fulfilling event.

Local Insights

Exploring your community—Learn about fun opportunities right in your local area, including fun things to do with children.

I\$ That All There I\$?

Personal Finance—Learn good ways to look at financial matters and how to read an LES statement.

Changing Ports-Moving

Be informed! Be prepared! Be flexible! Learn how to make moving

more efficient and about resources like a School Liaison Officer.

Getting Along

Healthy communications with friends, your spouse and your children.

U.S. Navy

History and Traditions.

Learn more about this program at www.lifelines.navymil/Familyline or visit the COMPASS website at www.gocompass.org.

Notable Quote:

"Children are the world's most valuable resource and its best hope for the future."

- John F. Kennedy

