



## FAMILY READINESS = OPERATIONAL READINESS



POLICY STATEMENT dated 27 August 2012

Military Families are truly special; they are highly respected and deeply honored by all Americans and many of our counterparts all over the world. Stationed here at Camp Pendleton in southern California, you truly are admired by your fellow Americans - -those Patriots who care about you, your families and the future of our Great Nation. Thus, this command shall have an energetic and available/visible Family Readiness Program tailored to support our Marines and Sailors as they maintain their families' readiness.

Family Readiness is a reflection of how a family cares for its members and accomplishes its goals. Marines and Sailors who choose to accept the added responsibility of having a family must also accept the solemn obligation for their families' care and welfare. To help ensure their families' well being, Marines and Sailors with families are required to maintain an accurate and updated *Family Care Plan* that will reflect the realities of military life. *The Family Care Plan* is a function of the Legal and S-1 Shops.

The Family Readiness Officer (FRO) provides the day-to-day management of our Family Readiness Program; this critical billet shall maintain the highest level of training and support, and will be thoroughly familiar with all the services available to our families. The FRO shall respond to concerns within 5 working days and will provide accurate answers or referrals as soon as possible. The FRO will serve as the principal conduit between the members of this command and the many various services available to our families. The FRO also serves as the principle communication link between the command team and the Headquarters and Support Battalion Families.

The FRO is not a substitute for the chain of command; the FRO is a special staff officer, dedicated to assisting one's chain of command as we support our Marines & Sailors. As the Commanding Officer, I am ultimately responsible for the support we provide to our Marines, Sailors, and their families. For this reason any spouse or other family member(s) who is in need of assistance will be treated with dignity and respect = **THE GOLDEN RULE!** Moreover, the FRO will ensure that the chain of command and the Marine or Sailor is informed as soon as possible. The solution to every dilemma or "curve ball" that life throws at all of us can be solved by timely, caring, positive leadership at all levels within the chain of command.

While our Marines and Sailors are responsible for the readiness of their families, rest assured that this Command and the United States Marine Corps is here to provide guidance in a timely and professional manner. Part of the way I shall endeavor to accomplish this is by having quarterly "town hall" type meetings with families. Additionally we will utilize **eMarine** to the fullest extent possible. I do want your input and feedback; engagement is vital to ensuring that everyone who is part of the Marine Corps family is taken care of to the best of our synergistic ability & capabilities, OOh Rah!

Semper Fidelis & May GOD Bless the United States of America!

MICHAEL E. CORDERO

COLONEL, USMC

COMMANDING OFFICER