



MacDill AFB

Exceptional Family Member Program

Newsletter



JUNE 2026

Meet Your EFMP Team

“Thriving Through Summer”

Welcome to summer! June is a season of transition for many of our military families. Whether you are preparing for a Permanent Change of Station (PCS), adjusting to the kids being out of school, or simply looking for inclusive summer activities, your EFMP Family Support (FS) team is here to help you navigate the changes. This month, we are focusing on ensuring smooth transitions and maintaining healthy routines during the summer months.

JUNE AWARENESS MONTH

- International Children’s Day(1st)
- Learning Disability Week (15-21st)
- National PTSD Awareness (27th)
- Brain & Alzheimer’s Awareness Month

EFMP Family Support

Location: M&FRC Office
8105 Condor St. Bldg. 18 MacDill, AFB
Email org box: 6FSS.FSH.EFMP@US.AF.MIL

EFMP Family Support Coordinator

Ta’Nashea McLeod
Email: tanashea.mcleod@us.af.mil
813-828-0136

EFMP Family Support Navigator

Angela Ocampo
Email: angela.ocampo@us.af.mil
813-828-0122

Army EFMP Systems Navigator

Marna Stillman
Email: marna.stillman.ctr@us.af.mil
813-828-0142

School Liaison Program Manager

Dr. Venetia Waters
venetia.waters@us.af.mil
813-828-0146
Office cell: 813-597-6061

EFMP Medical Special Needs Coordinator

Adenike Coore/Hariett Montoya
Email: adenike.s.coore.ctr@health.mil
harriett.montoya@us.af.mil
Location: MacDill Clinic Patient Admin
813-827-9909/8999

EFMP Assignments

PCS & Personnel Actions (located in MPF)
813-828-2005



MILITARY ONE SOURCE

Consultants are available 24/7

Military One Source has confidential counseling that provides service members, military couples and eligible family members, including spouses, children and teens, with resources and support to help them cope with stress and address challenges head on.

Call: 800-342-9647

MILITARY & FAMILY
LIFE COUNSELING

Need someone to help with everyday military life stressors?
Our MFLCs are here to help!

Military & Family Life Counselors are available at M&FRC both in office and virtual options are available.

Call and leave a message:
MFLC, Kim Peters 813-816-3061
MFLC, Terrell Morrison 813-210-7822
Not sure where to begin or how to start?

<https://tricare.mil/mentalhealth/>
or call

Call TRICARE EAST at 800-444-5445
(Ask about virtual options)

Call the MHS Nurse Advice Line
813-827-2273 (CARE)

There are some options that do not
require a referral.



PCS Season is here

You just received orders.
Where do you begin?



The Family Member Travel Screening (FMTS) process begins when a service member receives an assignment notification to a CONUS or OCONUS location.

1. You will work with your **EFMP Medical Special Needs Coordinator** to receive Travel approval for dependents. (EFMP Medical located on 2nd floor of MacDill Clinic in Patient Admin) 813-827-9909
2. **EFMP Family Support** has separate taskers that are congressionally mandated and must be completed to complete vMPF taskers for travel. Located in Military & Family Readiness Center 813-828-0122

TRUE OR FALSE?

I received orders in vMPF, therefore I am cleared to make travel arrangements??

Answer: FALSE - You must receive verification from EFMP Medical that you are cleared for travel.

***DO NOT MAKE TRAVEL arrangements until you have received verification from EFMP Medical in MyVector that Dependent Travel has been approved.

I received Dependent Travel Approval. I am finished with EFMP tasker??

Answer: FALSE- You must complete additional taskers with EFMP Family Support. It is congressionally mandated that EFMP Family Support have a Family Needs Assessment to complete your DD Form 3054. A warm handover will be sent to your new duty location.

For more information & resources, please see the Department of the Air Force Family Vector

<https://daffamilyvector.us.af.mil/>

If traveling from the Tampa International Airport, Sunshine Lanyards are available from the service desk to assist travelers with disabilities.



Special

EDUCATION



MCEE meeting

MacDill Council for Educational Excellence
Open to parents of military-connected K-12 students enrolled in Hillsborough County Public Schools (HCPS)

Monday, Jun. 29, 2026 • 4 PM
6 ARW Conference Room
8208 Hangar Loop Drive, Bldg 299,
MacDill AFB

In-person or via Zoom:
Meeting ID: 161 117 9896
Passcode: SLPMCEE

Military family forum to discuss educational opportunities and needs for K-12 students with MacDill AFB and HCPS District leadership

*In-person attendance is recommended to ask educational questions to the MCEE committee. If special assistance is needed due to a disability as defined under the ADA, please provide three (3) days notice.
POC: Dr. Venetia D. Waters, School Liaison Program Manager
venetia.waters@us.af.mil • (813) 828-0146
Partnership for education excellence between 6 ARW & Hillsborough County Public Schools



Air Force Military Family Readiness Center brings you LRP Publications' **Special Ed Connection**® and **DirectSTEP**® eLearning courses **FREE** of charge!

Special Ed Connection® (www.specialedconnection.com) provides resources and tools that Air Force Staff and parents can use to gain a clear understanding of special education requirements and services and how they work. From legal rights to practical application and from student referrals to IEPs, **Special Ed Connection**® explains specific procedures and provides real-world application strategies so parents can learn the complexities surrounding special education supports and services.

For more information, contact your local Military Family Readiness Center (EFMP Coordinator or School Liaison Officer)

DirectSTEP® eCourses explain legal requirements and best practices for behavior management, autism, IDEA eligibility, IEPs and more. They also teach parents and educators how to handle critical education issues to obtain positive outcomes while applying education laws to the day-to-day world of teaching and learning. These eCourses are available for use by all Air Force staff, parents, Military/DoD personnel assigned to Air Force installations and K-12 educators serving military children.

With each eCourse you will:

- ▶ Receive the highest quality training developed by respected special education experts.
- ▶ Learn at your own pace for the greatest possible comprehension and retention.
- ▶ Take courses based on individual training needs and interests.
- ▶ Engage in learning through quizzes and activities.
- ▶ Learn how to make decisions that are educationally and legally sound.
- ▶ Receive a certificate of completion.

Go to <http://usafefmp2021-ds.lrp.com> and self-register for your eCourses.

LRP Publications 200 Hillside Drive, DeSoto Gardens, FL 33416
1-800-616-4577 ext. 8895
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TUTOR.COM for U.S. MILITARY FAMILIES
www.tutor.com/military



MacDill EFMP supports Army EFMP Families! Need



Our Army Systems Navigator can help.
Marna Stillman
marna.stillman@us.af.mil
813-828-0142



Scan me!

<https://efmp.army.mil>

EFMP-FS PRESENTS

SISTER SERVICE SUPPORT GROUP

Join the MacDill Army EFMP Systems Navigator and Camp Bull Simons ACS EFMP Systems Navigator for this virtual support group! An inclusive, supportive environment to gather and connect with EFMP Army families. Each session will give families the time and space to address their concerns, share valuable knowledge, and create new relationships.

22 May, 12 June,
24 July, 28 August
1100-1200

REACH OUT FOR SUPPORT

Please register to receive the zoom link :)

TO REGISTER...
Email: marna.stillman.csr@us.af.mil
Call: 813-828-0142

★ NEW ★ E-EFMP
Enterprise - Exceptional Family Member Program System

Provides information on:

- Installation EFMP services
- Medical providers
- Community resources

Let's Talk Water Safety



Drowning is fast, silent, and can happen to anyone. It can happen in the few minutes a distraction can take you away from the water to answer the phone or run inside for a towel. In Florida, drowning is the leading cause of unintentional death to children ages 1-4.

High Support Needs and Safety

Individuals with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) who require high levels of support often experience unique and complex safety challenges related to communication differences and societal barriers. They may experience increased vulnerability during emergencies due to limited verbal communication/difficulty communicating needs, reduced awareness of danger, heightened sensory sensitivities and challenges with self-regulation, and/or interpreting social cues.



Wandering/Elopement

One of the most prevalent and serious concerns is wandering or elopement. These behaviors can occur at any age and in any setting and may result in exposure to life-threatening situations such as traffic accidents, accidental falls, or drowning. Research shows that drowning is one of the leading causes of death among individuals with ASD, particularly children, with many incidents occurring after a person wanders toward nearby bodies of water.

WATER SAFETY IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY

- **Regularly scan the top and bottom of the water.**
- *NO conversations, books, headphones, or cell phones.**
- *If the assigned adult needs to leave, assign another responsible adult to take over.**
- *Never leave children alone in or near water.**
- *Use barriers to prevent children from accessing water.**



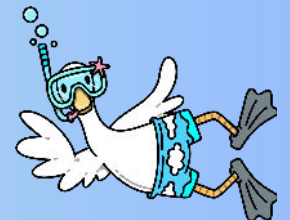
Resources & Tools

CARD-USF has compiled resources and tools.
Please contact CARD-USF for personalized assist
Register for support online:

<https://card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu/register.html>

Phone: (813) 974-2532

Email: card-usf@usf.edu



Contact CARD for a FREE CARD Safety Kit

CARD Directory of Swim Lessons & Summer Camps:

<https://card-usf.fmhi.usf.edu/ost/index.html>



EFMP Upcoming Events



WELLNESS YOGA

Register Now **JOIN US!**

EVERY FIRST THURSDAY | 7:30 PM - 8:30 PM
 05 FEB, 05 MAR, 02 APR, 07 MAY,
 04 JUN, 02 JULY, 06 AUG, 03 SEPT,
 01 OCT, 05 NOV, 03 DEC

TO REGISTER EMAIL:
 6FSS.FSH.EFMP@US.AF.MIL

YOGA LOFT TAMPA

2002 E. 5th St Unit 102
 Tampa, FL 33605



REDUCE YOUR STRESS WITH STRESS LESS CLASS

ARE YOU AN EFMP CAREGIVER OR DEPENDENT OF A DEPLOYED SERVICE MEMBER AND COULD USE STRATEGIES FOR MANAGING STRESS?

FRIDAY, 10 JULY 2026. 1300-1400

- Learn strategies for handling life challenges
- Increase your overall health & sense of well being by adding movement for stress relief.
- Find new ways to prioritize your self-care

REGISTER FOR VIRTUAL OPTION

LIMITED SEATS AVAILABLE!
 TO REGISTER CALL:
 813-828-0122/0136 OR EMAIL
 6FSS.FSH.EFMP@US.AF.MIL

Location:
 MILITARY & FAMILY READINESS CENTER
 8105 CONDOR ST. BLDG 18 TAMPA, FL 33621
 MACDILL AFB, FL

LESS STRESS

MacDill AFB Hearts Apart
EFMP FAMILY SUPPORT & Deployed Families
HEARTS APART YOU'RE INVITED!

CONNECT EVENTS

JUN 26
 4- YOGA LOFT RELAXATION YOGA
 12-14 EFMP @ THE FAMILY CAFE ORLANDO
 27- EFMP & BLUE STAR FAM EVENT FOR CAREGIVER'S AT THE COHEN CLINIC

JUL 26
 2- YOGA LOFT RELAXATION YOGA
 10- STRESS LESS CLASS @ M&FRC
 16- DRIP ART STUDIO (ADULTS & TEENS)
 TBA- STEM EVENT W/BLUE STAR FAM

AUG 26
 1- MACDILL BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR
 4- TGH ICEPLEX AFTERNOON SKATE
 6- YOGA LOFT RELAXATION YOGA

TO REGISTER PLEASE CALL 813-828-0122/0136 OR EMAIL: 6FSS.FSH.EFMP@US.AF.MIL

MORE INFO

Connect Event
EFMP & Deployed Families
Art & Pottery Workshop

DRIP Art Studio
 1620 E 7th Ave Tampa, FL 33605
 Thursday, 16 JULY 2026
 6:30 PM-8:30 PM

CREATE - CONNECT - INSPIRE

Join us for a hands-on creative experience at DRIP Art Studio. Perfect for adults and teens looking for a fun and relaxing evening.

Choose your artistic adventure:
 *Pottery Wheel
 *Hand Sculpture
 *Paint Your Own Ceramics
 *Mosaic Tile Art

No experience needed- instruction included.
 Limited spots available, so register now!

Email sponsor and spouse's DoD ID #, name, & age of participants to:
 813-828-0122/0136
 6FSS.FSH.EFMP@us.af.mil



EFMP Trainings & Workshops



MACDILL EFMP FAMILY SUPPORT PRESENTS VIRTUAL TRAINING 2026



DO YOU KNOW ALL OF THE THINGS EFMP FAMILY SUPPORT CAN DO FOR ACTIVE-DUTY AIR FORCE & SPACE FORCE SERVICE MEMBERS AND THEIR FAMILIES?

TOPICS COVERED:

- *AIR FORCE/SPACE FORCE DAF FAMILY VECTOR
- *INDIVIDUALIZED FAMILY NEEDS ASSESSMENTS
- *EFMP AIR FORCE/SPACE FORCE GRANTS
- *SPECIAL EDUCATION RESOURCES
- *CHANGES TO AIR FORCE RESPITE CARE PROGRAM

DATES: 21 JAN, 18 FEB, 18 MAR, 15 APR, 20 MAY, 17 JUNE, 15 JUL, 19 AUG, 16 SEPT, 21 OCT, 18 NOV, 16 DEC

IN PERSON & VIRTUAL

(ZOOM CODE: 160 3265 9210 PASSCODE: EFMP101)

FROM 1000-1100

TO REGISTER:

EMAIL: 6FSS.FSH.EFMP@US.AF.MIL OR CALL 813-828-0122



Do you have a dependent transitioning into adulthood or are you an EFMP family transitioning out of the military? EFMP 201 is for you!

To Register Email:

6fss.fsh.efmp@us.af.mil

New to MacDill? New to EFMP or do you just want to learn the latest supports available for EFMP families??

Don't miss our monthly EFMP 101 Orientation!

MACDILL EFMP 201 TRANSITIONS BRIEF



EXCEPTIONAL FAMILY MEMBER PROGRAM



Navigating life transitions can be difficult. MacDill EFMP Team is committed to helping you plan ahead. Whether you are retiring or supporting a dependent EFM through a significant life change. Speak directly to your subject matter experts.



- EFMP Family Support Program Team
- School Liaison Program Manager
- Vocational Rehabilitation-FL DOE
- MacDill Legal-Special Education
- Tricare representative
- MPF Secondary Dependency/Incapacitated Adult
- FL Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD)
- Special Needs Alliance- (Guardianship, Special Needs Trust & more!)

Join our virtual brief!

2026

TUESDAYS

10:30AM-12:30PM

MAR 10

JUN 9

SEPT 8

DEC 8



ZOOM Meeting ID:

160 3265 9210

Passcode: EFMP201

See our EFMP One Stop page:
<https://macdillfss.com/efmp>

For questions or assistance please email:

6fss.fsh.efmp@us.af.mil



+1-813-828-0122/0136



EFMP Family Support

Community Resources



Don't miss this opportunity to connect with Florida! This is Florida. Attend sessions to learn more about resources and supports or attend the exhibition hall with hundreds of vendors providing supports and services for all disabilities!



ADA CELEBRATION!
36 YEARS AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

CELEBRATE - LEARN - SHARE:
IMPACTING INCLUSION THROUGH THE ARTS

SAVE THE DATE!
FREE EVENT INCLUDING PERFORMANCES AND AWARD CEREMONY

FRI • JUL 24 • 7:00PM
REHEARSAL HALL

ASL and other accommodations may be provided upon request. All ADA requests must be submitted by July 10, 2026.
813.229.7827 • STRAZCENTER.ORG

Events, days, times, performers and prices are subject to change without notice.

We Rock the Spectrum Tampa is proud to offer

Water Wise

A fun event with a serious purpose

Free Event!
Fri., June 5th 10 am-1 pm

Space is limited, advance RSVP is required

Join us for this sensory-friendly event including:

- Open Gym Play
- Drowning Prevention
- Water Safety Information
- Community Resources

Enjoy a special visit from Josh the Otter

(813) 571-1600
info@werockthespectrumtampa.com
1076 E. Brandon Blvd. #102
Brandon, FL 33511

Supported by

EFMP Resources



DAF FAMILY VECTOR

Dept. of AF EFMP Family Vector is a simple way to find guidance, tools and support of your EFMP journey.

- Welcome to EFMP
- Updates on TRICARE
- Medical Trends Dashboard
- EFMP Medical-Enrollment & Disenrollment
- EFMP Assignments Coordination
- DAF Respite Care Program
- Special Education (Video Library)
- Special Education Legal Assistance
- PCS Family Member Travel Screening Forms & Resources
- EFMP Video Gallery
- OSD Podcast and much more!



<https://daffamilyvector.us.af.mil/>



EFMP Family Support



agency for persons with disabilities
State of Florida

Supporting Active Duty Military Families

The 2014 Florida Legislature authorized individuals who meet the eligibility requirements of 393.065(1), F.S., to receive home and community-based services in this state if the individual's parent or legal guardian is an active duty military service member and, at the time of the service member's transfer to Florida, the individual was receiving home and community-based services in another state. This law became effective on July 1, 2014.

What are the eligibility requirements for APD?

To be eligible for services from the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the individual must be:

- 3 years of age or older, and have a developmental disability before the age 18
- A Florida resident *
- Diagnosed with one of the following seven developmental disabilities listed in Chapter 393, Florida Statutes: autism, cerebral palsy, intellectual disabilities, Down syndrome, Prader-Willi syndrome, spina bifida, Phelan-McDermid syndrome or children age 3-5 who are at a high risk of a developmental disability

* Effective July 1, 2014, individuals whose parents or legal guardian are in active duty military service are eligible to apply to APD and be enrolled in the iBudget waiver if the person was receiving waiver services from the state they were living in prior to Florida.

What services does APD provide?

The agency provides services that help individuals to live, learn and work in their communities. The types of services that APD provides under the waiver are grouped in eight service families. These are Life Skills Development (companion services, supported employment and adult day training), Supplies and Equipment, Personal Supports (personal care assistance), Residential Services, Support Coordination (Case Management), Therapeutic Supports and Wellness (behavior analysis services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, etc.), Transportation, and Dental Services for adults over the age of 21. For more information go to: <http://apd.myflorida.com/budget/docs/services.pdf>

APD does not provide medical services. However, once a person meets Medicaid eligibility, the individual may receive medical services from the Florida Medicaid system operated by the Agency for Health Care Administration. For information on these benefits, please link to: Economic Self Sufficiency (ACCESS) at: <http://www.fdhc.state.fl.us/medicaid/services.shtm>

For Medicaid eligibility, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) is the agency that makes this determination. To apply for Medicaid, please go to the DCF Automated Community Connection to Economic Self Sufficiency (ACCESS) at: <http://www.myflorida.com/accessflorida>.



EFMP Respite Care

AVAILABLE FOR ELIGIBLE DAF FAMILIES

The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is proud to offer free respite care, either 20 or 32 hours a month, to families with children identified as exceptional family members.



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- The Sponsor is active duty or a reservist on active-duty orders.
- The EFM child(ren) (birth through 18 years) resides with the Sponsor.
- If eligible, the EFMP enrollment letter will state how many hours the family can receive.



AVAILABLE IN THE U.S.

Respite care provided by well-trained and background screened providers throughout the United States.



20 or 32 HOURS FREE PER MONTH

The EFMs level of need will determine how many hours per month a family receives.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call 800-424-2246 x318 or visit www.childcareaware.org



FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

SPECIAL NEEDS (EFMP)



Families with special needs members may be faced with frequent medical care needs resulting in added and unexpected costs. Dealing with these financial burdens can make an already difficult situation even more challenging. AFAS provides financial help when the family has medical or other needs not fully covered or not covered by TRICARE.

ELIGIBILITY

- Air Force and Space Force active-duty members
- Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members on a Title 10 or Title 32 Active Guard Reserve (AGR) Initial/Continuation order
- Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members on a Title 10 or Title 32 order for 180 days or more

GUIDANCE

- Families with a "Q" code personnel record designation are assisted with up to \$3,000 per special needs family member over a three-year period. The three-year period begins again if family still meets eligibility criteria.
- AFAS assistance should be approved prior to purchase of special equipment or need.
- Approved as a loan and converted to a grant upon submission of receipts within 7 days.
- Assistance is provided for, but not limited to:
 - Special therapeutic equipment
 - Educational equipment
 - Communication devices
 - Transportation equipment
 - Fees for specialized camps

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

- Single Unit Retrieval Format (SURF) or Career Data Brief (CDB) showing "Q" code designation
- Estimate(s)
- Doctor or therapist recommendation is required for specific need
- Other system-built documentation required with application

