

Focus On FamilyCenter

VRC FamilyCenter Update September 2005

Summer has passed and we enter the familiar drill that accompanies it. It's time to put up the patio furniture, stow the grill, winterize the pool and mow the lawn for the last time. Soon enough, time to begin raking leaves. As we start into these annual rites of fall, let us not forget that there are many families in the area who are doing the same things, but for them these mundane tasks present challenges because they are struggling without the help and support of a spouse/partner who is deployed. This separation is painful and makes these otherwise routine jobs more challenging for these families in need.

Raising the awareness of the public about the unique needs of our military families is something that we at VRC FamilyCenter are 100% committed to. I am happy to report that our efforts for FY06 (October 05 - Sep 06) are well under way and that we are headed toward an exciting year. It will be a period that sees our efforts growing in exciting and meaningful ways. Always, at the core of what we do, will be the military families and vets within our sphere of influence.

So, what is it that will make the next year a success? We will be able to guide families to help in the areas of family counseling, financial counseling and legal service support. Additionally, we are planning one Family Appreciation Event and one Family Support Seminar every three months. In addition, things will get even better. We plan to expand our services and events by April of 2006! We are working with partners such as Attorney Susan Lederer, Commerce Bank, Mechanicsburg Vietnam Vets, VFW Post 6704 Mechanicsburg, Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, and Naval Support Activity Mechanicsburg. All these organizations are committed to helping and all share our concern for military families.

Know that every effort we put forth, every event we conduct, contributes to the overall effect that helps the veterans and their families. You can make a difference to a veteran, a military family or a child who is missing a parent due to deployment. You can help by donating a few hours of your time and being a VRC or FamilyCenter volunteer. We need more volunteers to help us expand our services in 2006. Please contact me at francis.piacine@navy.mil or contact another VRC staff member to join us. We welcome your help, ideas and support.

Finally, if you know a family with a husband, wife or partner deployed, do not be shy about offering a helping hand this fall with those annual chores. Your offer of help will be appreciated, and can make a big difference to a family in need.