

FAMILY READINESS SUPPORT COUNCIL

MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 19, 2008

ATTENDEES:

LifeSkills Trainer (MC): Titus R. Burns

MAGTFTC/MCAGCC: SgtMaj William Johnson

L.I.N.K.S. Trainer: Amber Bilderain

Family Readiness Program Trainer: Monica McBroom

PREP/CREDO: Chaplain Moran

Armed Services YMCA: Jodi Bennett

Navy & Marine Corps Relief Society: Courtney Wester

Deployment Health Clinic: LtCmdr Barbara Dittrich

MCCS Coordinator: Lindy Seto

MCFTB Readiness & Deployment: Jessica Stevenson-Ross

1st TANKS SgtMaj: SgtMaj Potts

A Company, 3rd CEB FRO: MSgt Lutton

A Company, 3rd CEB KVA: Jamie Flores

C Company, 3rd LAR: SSgt Mayes

H & S Company, 3rd LAR FRO: SSgt McKibben

CLB-7 FRO: GySgt Hardy

HQ Bn: 1stSgt Ferrer

VMU-1 KVC: Julie Prose

Naval Hospital: Chief Leroy James

MCFTB Admin Assistant: Kenia Fuertes

MCFTB

- Titus Burns leading the meeting today as Mr. Ford is out on leave.
- The Marine Corps Family Team Building Council Meeting will now be called the Family Readiness Support Council Meeting.
- The next meeting dates will be 18 September and 11 December, in the MCFTB Training Room from 1000-1130.
- MCFTB staff went through training ("train the trainer") recently. There will be a lot of deliverables coming down from HQMC. Once the trainers go through the materials, they will start scheduling workshops/training.

LINKS

- L.I.N.K.S. Schedule for regular open sessions: 26 July from 0800-1700, 19 & 21 August from 0800-1330. Both sessions will be held at the LINKS House.
- Several new workshops will soon be available through LINKS:
 - LINKS for Teens, LINKS for Kids, LINKS for Parents and LINKS for Marines.
 - It will take approximately another month for materials to come down from HQMC.
 - Looking for ideas for the LINKS for Marines, if you have any please contact Amber Bilderain at 830-1537
 - The LINKS for Parent will be mostly given online.
- Looking for new Mentors! We now have the capability to train mentors.
- Looking into expanding the LINKS program to include a LINKS for Navy spouses and to recruit participants from HQ Bn & MCCES.

LIFESKILLS

- There will be 5 core classes starting some time in August. Each class/workshop will be approximately 1-2 hrs long.
 - **Casualty Support** - not a green side brief, but more to help the spouses understand how the information flows down the Chain of Command.
 - **Family Care Plans** - the LifeSkills trainer will become an expert in this in the near future. Will try to have something at least 2x per month.
 - **Aging Parents & Elder Care**
 - **Parenting Teens / Tweens (9-12 yr olds)**
- **4 Lenses Training** - this is a tool designed to give one a better understanding of people's differences in personalities.
 - Helps to facilitate communication

- o This is not meant to be used as a leadership tool
- Leadership Skills Workshop will be held on 9th September, Tuesday, from 0800 - 1500 at the O'Club Mesa Room.
 - o Open to any spouses
 - o 1st come, 1st served (50 people max)
 - o Champion Heart theme
 - o Childcare will be provided

FAMILY READINESS PROGRAM

- The Key Volunteer Network is null and void. The program will now be called Family Readiness. They will be rolling out new titles and materials.
- There will still be something called the KV transition training which will be for units with no full time Family Readiness Officer.
- All Battalion Level or higher are now starting the process to hire their Family Readiness Officer. Your Commanding Officers will have input in who gets hired.
- **Command Team Training** - The Command team is described as the CO, Sr. Enlisted, XO, Chaplain, Civilian / Military FRO (full-time), Spouses of Sr. Officer and Sr. Enlisted, and Family Readiness Advisor(s).
 - o Family units are changing. It is no longer only the spouse and dependents but also the extended family (parents, grandparents, siblings, etc.)
 - o FRO responsibilities are expanding
 - o Will no longer be relying heavily on volunteers to take care of the families during a deployment, FROs will take more of a responsibility in this.
 - o HQMC wanted this training to be 6 hours long, however, the trainers suggested that this needed to be 3 hours or less otherwise we would find it very hard to have commands sit through the training. HQMC took this into consideration and are now revamping the materials at HQMC
 - o Some units that are deployed or deploying or will soon be deploying will be working with a hybrid of the program

PREP / CREDO

- The PREP Program is sponsored by the base and is a program for couples.
- The schedule for the rest of the year is available, please call 830-6464.
- Averaging 9 couples per session.
- Next PREP is 24 & 25 July in the West Wing of the Protestant Chapel.
- Each couple receives a textbook and a couples manual.
- CREDO billet was taken away from 29 Palms, however, Chaplain Moran has been a CREDO Chaplain for 3 years.

- Working on a weekend CREDO retreat off base (no military uniforms). Will be asking two separate groups to see if they are interested in the retreat (SNCO's/Officers & Jr. Enlisted). Funding will depend on the amount of couples interested. This will be a no cost permissive TAD. Please call 830-6187 if interested.
- Faith Lessons - Travel to the Holy Land with Ray Vander Laan, teacher/historian. Each segment is 10 minutes and is viewed on DVD every Thursday from 1200-1300 in Bldg. 1651. After watching the DVD there is a discussion. Please call 830-6187 if interested.

Armed Services YMCA

- Just had all their major annual events: Spaghetti Dinner was a large success and raised quite a bit of money for the Kids Care Club.
- Received a \$40,000 grant for the Big Bear Summer Camp trip. 86 kids will be going to Big Bear ranging from ages 8-14.
- Summer Program for July is starting for 2-9 year olds. Will be in Bldg. 192. It is parent/child interactive.
- Thrift Store is thriving - need volunteers!
- There will be a new ASYMCA playground for the kids in the next month or so.

NAVY & MARINE CORPS RELIEF SOCIETY

- Interviewed for 2 new assistants.
- Quick Assist Loans - This makes up 18% of the dollar value (\$73,645) of the loans given out and is an answer to the payday lenders. Spouses are not eligible.
 - o \$73,645 has been given to service members YTD.
 - o Unforeseen Emergencies - Car Payments, Gas & Insurance are rising. Used to be #4/#5 on the list, now #2.
- Average case is \$600. There have been 682 cases YTD, 258 of them QAL's and 424 regular cases. QAL's make up 38% of the case load.
- NMCRS will pay for childcare while service members and their spouses are at NMCRS for an appointment.

DEPLOYMENT HEALTH CENTER

- Currently have a large budget, which means we will be expanding.
- Hired a Program Manager and Case Manager at the TBI Clinic.
- Hired an Occupational Therapist with cognitive experience. Also, hired a physical therapist and assistant.
- We are about to purchase \$30,000 worth in physical therapy equipment (will be co-located with TANKS BAS).

- In Psych Health, now have a new psychologist and 2 Psychiatric Technicians. A NeuroPsychologist will be coming on board soon.
- We are trying to avoid Marines having to go all the way to Balboa for services.
- Post-deployment Health Reassessment
 - The lists that the Commands are receiving are not accurate. Have received GWOT money and are trying to create a live, online system so that the information is updated quicker. It currently takes 2 months for these lists to get updated.
 - TBI Program Manager (manages PDHRA schedules) is John Fraser.
 - If you need assistance with your rosters, please call 830-2948.
 - LHI should not be contacting the Commands directly, please refer them to DHC.

MCCS COORDINATOR

- Will be the point of contact for the Command Team.
- The new FRO's will be getting a lot of support from the MCCS Coordinator.
- Would like to sit down with each command and discuss ideas on how to improve quality of life issues for their Marines & Sailors.
- Prevention Council Meeting - these are quarterly meetings dealing with prevention.
 - Only 1 command was represented at the last meeting.
 - Invitations will be going out to the Sgts Major.

READINESS & DEPLOYMENT SUPPORT

- Each Readiness & Deployment Support Trainer will be assigned a specific unit.
- They will be the 1st point of contact for the FRO's.
- Will still be conducting pre, during, & post-deployment briefs
 - Pilot test did influence the new material and we'd like to thank everyone who participated in that.
 - Deployment briefs will no longer be the same as you know it.
 - Will now be 1-1.5 hours long maximum
 - All topics are now being turned into workshops
 - We now have spouse and children's workshops for families in the middle of deployments.
 - 6 new workshops will be available covering various topics, such as Personal Safety, Combat Operational Stress, and Finances. For some of these workshops, experts will be provided to conduct the workshop.

- o We will start coming out to the commands and meeting with them to see what it is that their families need.

SGTMAJ JOHNSON

- As of July 1st you can no longer drive while talking on cell phones. You must be using a wireless hands-free device. Under 18, not allowed to use a hands-free device at all.
 - o PMO will be stopping you!
- CHP & San Bernardino Cty - they are the ones who patrol Hwy 62
 - o They look for speeders first, DWI second.
 - o Tell your Marines & Sailors that we WILL be stopping them at the gate if they have an alcohol level of .9 & below.
 - o They will lose their driving privileges

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD 18 SEPTEMBER 08, BUILDING 1551.

PLEASE SEND AT LEAST ONE REPRESENTATIVE FROM YOUR UNIT.