

For Immediate Release

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Contact: Wynne Busman
Ileene Hoffman
703-352-3449
info@infanttoddler.com
www.infanttoddler.com

NACCRRRA Launches New Program Providing Free Respite Care to Marine Corps Families with Children with Special Needs

Infant/Toddler Child Care Resource and Referral to Administer Program in Northern Virginia

Northern Virginia-- The National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (NACCRRRA) has partnered with the U.S. Marine Corps to launch a new program that will provide respite care to Marine Corps families with children with special needs. The NACCRRRA Exceptional Family Member Program Respite Care (EFMP Respite Care) will serve Marine Corps families based in and around Northern Virginia. Infant/Toddler Child Care Resource and Referral has been awarded the grant to administer EFMP Respite Care in Northern Virginia.

"We are so pleased to be able to provide this much needed program to Marine Corps families with children with special needs in our area," said Jenni Stewart, EFMP Coordinator, of Infant/Toddler Child Care Resource and Referral. "NACCRRRA EFMP Respite Care will help many families receive a well-deserved break, knowing that their child is being well cared for by trained providers."

Through NACCRRRA EFMP Respite Care, eligible Marine Corps families can receive up to 40 hours per month of respite care services for children at no cost to the family. Respite care services in the Northern Virginia area will be provided by qualified caregivers recruited and trained in caring for children with special needs by Infant/Toddler Child Care Resource and Referral. Infant/Toddler Child Care Resource and Referral, a nonprofit organization, has been providing child care resource and referral services in Northern Virginia since 1983 and has worked with children with developmental disabilities since its inception.

NACCRRRA EFMP Respite Care will be available to those families stationed at the following locations in Northern Virginia: Henderson Hall, the Pentagon, and Quantico. The program is currently available to eligible Marine Corps families in southern California, Northern Virginia, areas of North Carolina, and will be available in southern South Carolina later in the year.

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In order to be eligible for NACCRRRA EFMP Respite Care, Marine Corps families must be enrolled in the U.S. Marine Corps Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), be impacted by the Global War on Terror, and have a child up to 18 years of age with at least one qualifying condition as diagnosed by a health care professional.

For more information about the NACCRRRA EFMP Respite Care contact Child Care Aware at 1-800-424-2246 or email EFMPrespitecare@naccrra.org. EFMP Respite Care information is available online at www.naccrra.org/MilitaryPrograms/EFMP.

For more information about any of NACCRRRA's other military programs, visit www.naccrra.org/MilitaryPrograms.

Infant/Toddler Child Care Resource and Referral has been bringing families together with experienced and professionally trained child care providers since 1983, and provides families with information on child care options in the community as well as information about quality child care

NACCRRRA, the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, is our nation's leading voice for child care. We work with more than 800 state and local Child Care Resource and Referral agencies to ensure that families in every local community have access to high quality, affordable childcare. To achieve our mission, we lead projects that increase the quality and availability of child care professionals, undertake research, and advocate child care policies that positively impact the lives of children and families. To learn more about NACCRRRA and how you can join us in ensuring access to high-quality child care for all families, visit us at www.naccrra.org.