



Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 24 Unit, Personal and Family Readiness Policy Statement



Aloha and welcome to the Marine Aircraft Group 24 Ohana! As the Commander of Marine Aircraft Group 24, the Family Readiness program is one of the most important programs in the entire Group to me. We will be a family oriented organization.

The overarching intent of everything we do at MAG-24 is Mission first, Marines and Sailors always. Within that, my number one priority is maintaining readiness to accomplish all assigned missions while preserving our most precious assets—our individual Marines and Sailors. As a part of America's expeditionary force in readiness, I need every Marine, Sailor, and Family to be ready so MAG-24 is always prepared to respond to today's crisis with today's force today. There is no better way to keep faith with our Marines, Sailors and Families and meet this intent, priority and expectation than with an effective Unit, Personal and Family Readiness Program.

My vision for MAG-24 is a vibrant, effective, and fully-supported Family Readiness Program that will maintain our support network, enhance our combat readiness, and increase quality of life for our Marines, Sailors and Families while providing that optimum link between personal and family readiness and our combat readiness. My ultimate goal for this program is ready and resilient Marines, Sailors and Families able to respond to life, career and mission events. This resiliency coupled with the knowledge that their Families are ready and being cared for allows our Marines & Sailors to focus on the mission.

The key functions of our Unit, Personal and Family Readiness Program is to build commitment and camaraderie, raise morale, and raise unit readiness. I see our Unit, Personal & Family Readiness as a combat multiplier equally as important as individual and equipment readiness. We will focus on four mission areas to make our program effective: communication, readiness & deployment support, information and referral, and volunteer management. MAG-24 is fortunate to have a full-time Family Readiness Officer (FRO) to help us meet the vision and objectives of our Family Readiness Program.

We need the active participation of all of our Marines, Sailors and Families to make our program work. I fully expect every Marine and Sailor in our MAG to participate in the program and be accountable for his or her personal and family readiness. I charge leaders at all levels to maintain a sense of importance for our Family Readiness Program. Our Family Readiness Program will reach out and provide support for ALL of our Marines and Sailors. I have appointed a Single Marine and Sailor Program Representative (SM&SP) to be a part of our Family Readiness Command Team who along with our FRO will reach out to our single Marines and Sailors to ensure they are receiving the same level of support as everyone else.

Our primary communication tool for family readiness is our e-Marine website. E-Marine is a secure environment that allows our FRO and me to communicate family readiness notifications and information to our Marines & Sailors, their spouses, extended family members to include parents and loved ones. MAG-24 will use other means to pass information that is of a crisis nature. I direct all Marines and Sailors in MAG-24 to register with e-Marine and designate one primary contact. I strongly encourage them to invite their family for e-Marine access and notifications. I also encourage spouses and family members to take advantage of this opportunity and accept the invitation. For more information go to www.emarine.org or talk to your Marine or Sailor.

Every spouse, particularly new spouses, should take one of the Lifestyle Insights, Networking, Knowledge & Skills (L.I.N.K.S.) classes offered on base to help families successfully meet the challenges of military life and enhance mission readiness. L.I.N.K.S. also offers classes for children, parents and advanced classes for our seasoned military spouses.

Our MAG is blessed with a loyal cadre of volunteers who selflessly give of their time, talents and effort in service to others. These volunteers are greatly appreciated, but we are ALWAYS looking for more volunteers, whether trained and appointed or not, to help in the effort to improve the quality of life for our Sailors, Marines and Families. Thank you.

Our FRO, our Volunteers, our SM&SP Rep, and I are always open to ideas and looking for ways to make things better for our Marines, Sailors and Families. Together, as a Team and Family, we can accomplish any mission and ensure the continued success of MAG-24 to our Corps. Mission first, Marines, Sailors & Families always.

Semper Fidelis,

Paul A. Fortunato

Colonel, United States Marine Corps
Commanding Officer, Marine Aircraft Group 24