



## VMM-265 Family Readiness Policy

From: Commanding Officer  
To: All Hands

The capabilities of our individual Marines—and therefore the capability of our squadron—are directly related to the strength and resiliency of our families. Therefore, our Unit, Personal, and Family Readiness Program (UPFRP) is an integral part of the Dragon's mission accomplishment.

Maintaining family readiness is my responsibility, but it requires the effort of all hands. To support us, our Family Readiness Officer (FRO), Kevin Lathrop, is our professional staff officer charged with executing our Family Readiness Program in consonance with our squadron's mission. Dragon Families include spouses, children, parents, designated extended family members, and our single Marines. Our UPFRP mission is to ensure our Marines and their families successfully navigate unit mission events, career events, and life events. Additionally, our UPFRP shall take every advantage of the unique opportunities Okinawa offers to improve quality of life for Dragon Families.

To maximize the effectiveness of our UPFRP, we shall:

- Effectively communicate regarding unit deployments, events and family issues.
- Be your primary source of information, although I will be assisted by the FRO and appointed Family Readiness Assistants (FRAs).
- Ensure the timely distribution of substantive information; however, Operational Security may limit that information flow.
- Official information will be passed via the Authorized Organizational Communication Tool (AOCT), which includes our eMarine site.
- Routine and unofficial communication will be shared via email and the unit's official Facebook page.
- Keep the chain of command, FRO and FRAs informed regarding significant family events (examples: births, marriages, divorces, pregnancies).
- Maximize our awareness and usage of the extensive local Marine Corps Community Services.
- Okinawa offers outstanding resources for everything from spouse/family education, counseling, youth sports, childcare, to deployment support.
- Ensure our Marines have the opportunity to receive training to improve their family and personal readiness (examples: personal financial education, new parent training, marriage counseling).
- Establish and maintain relationships and camaraderie among the Dragon families.
- One of the biggest benefits of living on Okinawa is the strong tie that develops between our Dragon Families. The friendships you create on this island will 'PCS' with you when you return to the States.
- Strive to host social events that enhance the tie between our Dragon Families, strengthen our relationships, and develop networks for communication and support.
- These events will always be open to our single Marines or unaccompanied personnel, who are separated from their families back in the states. We are all members of the Dragon Family.
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C. M. Murray