



SEPTEMBER 2022

Stay Connected.
We are here for you.

Join us in welcoming our new EFMP Attorney *Ms. Christina Jones*

Christina Jones, Esq. began this position in June 2022 and is tasked with representing Marine families in the National Capital Region. Prior to this post, Christina was a Professor of the Practice at William & Mary Law School, where she served as the Director of the Parents Engaged for Learning Equality (PELE) Special Education Advocacy Clinic since May 2017.



At the PELE Clinic, Christina taught and oversaw law students advocating for children with disabilities in eligibility, individualized education program (IEP), and disciplinary meetings. Christina also spearheaded the PELE Clinic's Institute of Special Education Advocacy (ISEA), which educates attorneys and lay advocates across the United States. *(continued on page 2)*

HENDERSON HALL EFMP TEAM

We are here to serve you and your family!

1555 Southgate Road, Building 12, Arlington, VA 22214-5000

Office hours: Monday—Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM

Email: efmphp@usmc-mccs.org Website: mccshh.com/EFMP.html

Family Case Worker:

Amy Proce 703-693-6510

amy.proce@usmc-mccs.org

Family Case Worker:

Davina Hardaway 703-693-4172

davina.hardaway@usmc-mccs.org

Administrative Assistant:

Christina Chipman 703-693-7195

christina.chipman@usmc-mccs.org



EFMP SERVICES AVAILABLE:

- Family support/case management (including deployment support)
- Informed assignment screening
- Special housing consideration (HQM EFMP)
- EFMP attorney assistance
- Resources and referrals
- Support at IEP meetings
- Eligibility for Tricare ECHO (with qualifying conditions)
- Transition assistance (Warm Hand-off)
- Workshops and trainings
- Lending library
- Loan locker
- Respite Care Reimbursement Program
- Family Needs Assessment & Service Plan

(continued from page 1)

She also led PELE's Special Education Boot Camp, training hundreds of military attorneys, paralegals, and Exceptional Family Member Program staff on protecting the rights of military children in special education. She has presented to groups including the National Allies for Parents in Special Education, Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center, William & Mary School of Education's Twice Exceptional Conference, as well as local special education advisory committees and nonprofits.

A native of Silicon Valley, Christina holds a B.S. in Business Administration from the University of California, Berkeley. She graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Notre Dame Law School, where she was awarded the David T. Link Award for outstanding service in the field of social justice, the Dean's Award in Disability Law, and the A. Harold Weber Moot Court Award for outstanding achievement in the art of oral argument. Her past experience includes work at The Arc of the United States in Washington D.C., Equip for Equality in Chicago, Legal Aid at Work in San Francisco, the Alliance for Catholic Education at Notre Dame, and the Dept. of Justice's Disability Rights Section in Washington D.C. Her close relationship with her cousin Jennifer, a young woman with autism, fuels her advocacy efforts.

Christina is licensed to practice law in Virginia (active) and California (inactive), and is currently seeking licenses in Maryland and the District of Columbia.



Attorney Tip: Filing for Guardianship

Did you know that in Virginia, families can seek **guardianship** for their soon-to-be adult family members who are incapacitated *six months before their 18th birthday*? The law allows the filing to happen earlier than 18, so that when they turn 18, everything is in place. This prevents families from having to take other measures, such as powers of attorney, educational representative, etc., while waiting for the guardianship process to finish. If the child turns 18, and parents do not have an educational power of attorney, educational representative, or guardianship, for example, the schools can stop talking to the parents and stop allowing them to attend IEP meetings and can even ask the children to sign consent to terminate special education services. (*We hope this last part doesn't happen*). Similarly, the child can be left without a parent to make medical or financial decisions for them if the proper paperwork is not in place.

You can **contact your Family Case Worker** to discuss the support you need from the attorney, and we can provide you with Ms. Jones's intake form. You are also welcome to **contact Ms. Jones** directly at: 703-784-4146, christina.jones@usmc.mil



A Class for Family Members and Caregivers who have Children and Youth with Mental Health Needs

Saturday, September 10, 2022

9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

The Arc of Greater Prince William
13505 Hillendale Dr.
Woodbridge, VA 22193



To register or for more information, contact Pat Victorson, Program Coordinator, mvictors@verizon.net or leave a message at 703-659-9983.

- Provides information to help parents understand typical behaviors versus challenging behaviors that require intervention.
- Learn when and how to seek help, develop parenting strategies, learn the ins and outs of special education and other educational supports, and discover community resources available to families and youth.
- Taught by parents who have been on similar journeys and can provide firsthand experience and knowledge.
- Receive a comprehensive manual with relevant resources and information in one place.

Lunch is included and the cost is FREE! Child care available, but registration is required.

Sponsored By





Autism Society of Northern Virginia

Description: *Teen Time!!*

Zoom together on the second Saturday each month from 12:00-1:00 p.m. to discuss topics and issues that are important to you! Topics range from middle and high school "stuff", life skills for independence or just get together to find friends with common interests or just make new friends!

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9466001682>

Meeting ID: 946 600 1682

One tap mobile: +13017158592,,9466001682# US (Washington D.C)

NEW

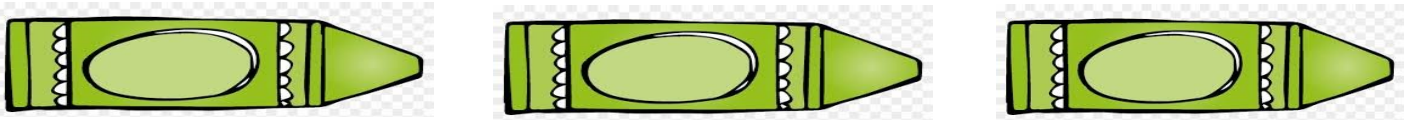
Digital Portfolio for Military Families



PEATC's Digital Portfolio for Military Families allows service members the ability to keep their Exceptional Family Member's paperwork in a digital, portable format. The portfolio organizes personal, educational, medical, legal, and military information and documentation so users can have easy access, less stress, no more binders, and fewer bins of paperwork to move from one duty station to the next.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Q&A with Your School Liaison



Q. What does a School Liaison (SL) assist with, and what is your role at Henderson Hall?

A. I help military families with school age children (Pre-K -12 grade) transition in and out of schools in **Arlington, Alexandria City and Loudon County**. My role is to provide information, resources, and referrals to military families. **Anything school related**, such as issues with enrollment, placement, attendance, eligibility, transcripts, and graduation. SLs provide school transition assistance and act as a support during deployments. SLs can also provide information and assistance to military families who choose to **homeschool** or enroll in **private, charter, or online schools**. SLs assist and create partnerships with local schools. School Liaisons educate local school administration and staff on the lifestyle and culture of the military child, so they have an understanding how transitions impact the incoming military children and how to better assist their students.

SLs educate and assist local schools on how become members of the **Purple Star School Program** (https://www.militarychild.org/upload/files/purple%20star/Purple_Star_One_Pagers_SCHOOLS_2.06.pdf). The Purple Star School Program indicates to military families that the school has put programs in place to help military kids acclimate to their new school. Some of these programs may include student ambassadors, professional development on the military transitions for staff, military mentors, designated points of contacts for military families/students and school administration, and events to recognize military families and to increase awareness of military connected kids.

Q. Do you have any tips for children with special needs who are transitioning back to face-to-face learning after doing virtual learning or homeschooling over the past year?

A. You know your child best, so advocate for your child. Reach out to their teacher and let them know how your child learns best. If possible, tour the school, your child's classroom, and meet his or her teachers before school starts. Show your child's teacher a picture of their learning environment at home. Keep detailed records in a journal with any questions or concerns you might have.

Q. Do you have any suggestions for families who are PCSing to the area?

A. Make sure to explain to your child(ren) in advance about the move. Make copies of all IEPs, IFSPs, and if possible have your child's teacher **write a letter** about them for the next school. It is helpful to have that background to give the new teacher. Ms. Fishman wants you to know the school liaison program exists to help and serve our military children and families and wants to invite families to contact her for additional assistance and support at: **Amy Fishman** (703) 693-8378, amy.fishman@usmc-mccs.org.

Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/ParagonSocialSkills>

Starting new groups in late August 2022

Woodbridge- Tuesday's 5-6:15pm

Fredericksburg- Thursday's 5-6:15pm



A FREE SOCIAL SKILLS GROUP FOR 8-12 YEAR
OLDS WITH AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER

Social Space

In this 12-week FREE group we will focus on basic social skills and actively practice their implementation using games, activities, and more!



Washington, DC Autism Walk

Saturday, October 15, 2022

National Mall

Join **Autism Speaks** for their Walk to ensure people with autism can reach their full potential and live their best lives!

Registration opens at 9:00 a.m. The opening ceremony will start at 10:30 a.m., and then the walk will start at 11:00 a.m.



Sometimes the environment at an Autism Speaks Walk can become overwhelming for people with sensory sensitivities. All of our walks allow access to a quiet space that can be used as a safe outlet if you or your loved one living with autism becomes overwhelmed. For more details about Walk Day and what to expect, [click here](#).

Click on flyer below for more information and to register:

A flyer for an event titled "Practice Emergency Interactions". The text on the flyer includes: "Practice Emergency Interactions", "Saturday October 8th, 2022", "2:00 pm - 5:00 pm", "Kenmore Middle School", "200 S. Carlin Springs Rd", and "To register: thearcofnova.org/events/practice-police-interactions/". The flyer features illustrations of two police officers standing next to a police car, and a firefighter holding a fire extinguisher. At the bottom, there are logos for the Arlington Police Department, the Arlington Fire Department, the Community Engagement Division, and The Arc Northern Virginia.

Practice Emergency Interactions

Saturday October 8th, 2022

2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Kenmore Middle School

200 S. Carlin Springs Rd

To register: thearcofnova.org/events/practice-police-interactions/

POLICE
DEPARTMENT
ARLINGTON COUNTY
VIRGINIA

ARLINGTON
FIRE
VIRGINIA

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT DIVISION
COURTESY • YOUTH • BUSINESS • ANNUITY

The Arc.
Northern Virginia



EFMP and Community Workshops and Events

Date	Time	Workshop/Event	Description	Location
Tues, Sept. 6, 2022	11:30 am - 12:30 pm	EFMP Lunch & Learn: Early Intervention	Come and learn about accessing a wealth of resources available in the National Capital Region and how to find new resources when you PCS to a new location. <i>Registration:</i> efmphh@usmc-mccs.org	Henderson Hall, Building 12, Conference Room or Virtual
Wed, Sept. 7, 2022	10:00 am	Supported Decision Making During Transition & Beyond	Learn about supported decision making . how to get started, and how to build a team to help you navigate beyond school. <i>Register:</i> https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_jayMNTSTTYS8cwPXn4M8BQ	Zoom
Fri, Sept. 9, 2022	10:00 am - 11:30 am	Financial Planning: How Much is Enough?	Learn about the "must-haves" in financial planning , and explore strategies for anticipating future needs. <i>Register:</i> https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_PlrNTPvSS6mXgCx_nFueMA	Zoom
Wed, Sept. 14, 2022	6:30 pm	The Big Step: Early Intervention to Preschool	Learn about the transition to preschool , tips for success, and the roles of parents, service coordinators, and educators. <i>Register:</i> https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_D9epy7QTSHuYqKjmFmo1Hq#/registration	Zoom
Thurs, Sept. 15, 2022	8:00 am - 12:00 pm	Autism Resource Clinic	All military parents/guardians of children with Autism Spectrum Disorder are invited to attend. There will be a variety of local experts from medical, local schools, military, and community to provide a plethora of resources for newly diagnosed families, newly relocated families, and families that need more support. <i>For more information contact Jennifer Hensley, DNP, CPNP, PMHS or Carol Bruch RN 571-231-1027</i>	Fort Belvoir Community Hospital
Thurs, Sept. 15, 2022	12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Broad Futures Winter Internship	Learn about a post-secondary, paid internship program for neurodiverse students who plan on college. \$\$ scholarships available. <i>Register:</i> https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ldOGopzoqG93mMKXrmFWmO2hKxy9P15m-	Zoom
Thurs, Sept. 15, 2022	2:30 pm	Supporting Siblings of Children with Disabilities	Learn the challenges and opportunities of how to help siblings of children with disabilities to feel supported. <i>Register:</i> https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_xSOHQ1LnRMOz2NbkesKilQ#/registration	Zoom
Fri, Sept. 16, 2022	10:00 am - 11:30 am	Social Security Basics	Learn about Supplemental Security Income (SSI), Social Security Disability Insurance, Retirement, Survivorship, and Disabled Adult Child (SSDI) programs. <i>Register:</i> https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZetc-ioqD4uHdd8p711A-mUOllISAUAAXcJ	Zoom
Tues, Sept. 20, 2022	11:30 am - 12:30 pm	EFMP Lunch & Learn: Building Networks of Support	Learn how to find resources and how to build a support system by sharing and networking with others who are dealing with the same challenging circumstances. <i>Registration:</i> efmphh@usmc-mccs.org	Henderson Hall, Building 12, Conference Room or Virtual
Thurs, Sept. 22, 2022	2:00 pm	Promising Programmatic Practices for People with Dual Diagnosis	Learn about a community-based program to treat individuals with mental health and substance abuse disorders. <i>Register:</i> https://thearc-org.zoom.us/webinar/register/1416599732650/WN_SFmuqkHTT1i8VZGtMRr_BQ	Zoom



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