



# MCB Hawaii EFMP The Exceptional 'Ohana June 2025

## Exceptional Financial Planning

Financial planning for many families focuses on buying a home, raising children, funding college, and retiring. Special needs financial planning, on the other hand, is designed to help manage your money so that you can provide for the lifelong needs of your child with special needs.

The Personal Financial Management Program (PFMP) can help! PFMP is located at the Education Center in building 220 (across the street from the Base Library.) All services are FREE!!

PFMP staff can advise and answer any of your questions about able accounts and financing a special needs trust to help protect your child's access to government benefits.

Contact the PFM Program Manager at [melanie.j.brassfield.naf@usmc.mil](mailto:melanie.j.brassfield.naf@usmc.mil)

Or call 808 496-7783 or 808 260-6832 to schedule an appointment today!

## Contact Us:

Main: 808-496-0290

Fax: 808-496-1650

Email: [mcbh.efmp@usmc.mil](mailto:mcbh.efmp@usmc.mil)

Facebook & Instagram: @EFMP Hawaii

## What are qualifying traits for service dogs?

Service Animals must go through a rigorous assessment process, before qualifying to be a service animal. This process is vital in ensuring that service dogs and their handlers will be able to successfully navigate society within their protected and legally standardized guidelines, and meet the needs of their handlers. There are complex expectations for being a service dog. Many people are not aware that the dog's existence and success or failure in an individual's life can legitimately factor into life-or-death outcomes; service dogs are simply not just pets.

Here are some general traits that can be assessed when determining if a dog can qualify as a service animal:

- The dog must be able to remain behaviorally stable in a wide range of environments; gentle and non-reactive (no barking, growling, etc.).
- The dog must be able to remain focused, quiet, and dutiful to its handler versus wandering or becoming distractible.
- A dog's energy level must be low enough that the dog should be able to lie or sit on the floor next to its handler quietly without lots of movement.
- When walking on a leash, the dog should be calm and attentive without pulling, barking, or lunging.

If an item/individual enters the dog's environment such as other dogs, children, food, or noises, these distractions should be ignored (unless this is contradictory to the handler's specific service training). Ultimately, many dogs don't make it to become service dogs. Service dogs specialized and unique characteristics are not common to the broader canine population. Greater public understanding of the service dog training and assessment process leads to increased respect and support for both dogs and their handlers.



**EFMP** Exceptional  
Family Member  
Program

## Are YOU Hurricane-Ready?

Hurricane Season in Hawaii begins June 1st and lasts through November. Occasionally, mother nature hits the islands hard. Hurricanes and tropical storms bring rough surf, high winds, and heavy rainfall. These conditions can lead to evacuations, flooding, and power outages. If you haven't already formulated a plan and assembled your family's emergency preparedness kit, now is the time! An emergency preparedness kit is a collection of items that you will need in the event of an emergency. This may include; food, water, medications, and other supplies to last a minimum of 72 hours.

A plethora of resources can be found at: <https://dod.hawaii.gov/hiema/>

By visiting the State of Hawaii's Emergency Management Agency website. You can find information on hurricane preparedness, links to FEMA and resources available for families with a special need.

If you need additional assistance or have more questions on Hurricane Preparedness and Emergency Readiness, feel free to contact your Family Case Worker.



## New Parent Support Program

The New Parent Support Program (NPSP) is a professional team of social workers and registered nurses who focus on providing one-on-one support for new parents. The program helps parents, including expecting parents, develop the skills they need to provide a nurturing environment for their children.

Having a new baby in the home is a pleasure and a challenge for most parents. But for military families who are separated from extended family, parenthood can pose special concerns. To help parents cope with the challenges, the military has developed the NPSP. This program is voluntary and free of charge.

Through a variety of programs, such as Baby Boot Camp, Breastfeeding Support Group, Home visits, Baby/Toddler Sign language, and Infant Message classes. The NPSP will help your family cope with the unique, everyday demands and challenges of raising a family in the military.

Call 808-496-8803 to schedule a phone consultation and to learn more about services offered.



# Training & Events

For event registration, call us at 808-496-0290.

You can also email us at [mcbh.efmp@usmc.mil](mailto:mcbh.efmp@usmc.mil) or contact your case worker.

Please register at least 1 day prior to the event.

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	LOCATION
June 2	11:30 AM	Accessing Community Resources— Learn about available supports & resources on and off base.	Virtual on Teams. RSVP to get the link.
June 18	10:00 AM	Sensory-friendly Storytime with the Base Library— This Storytime incorporates more songs and movement for the active child.	BUILDING 219, Library Classroom 106 (next to the EFMP office)
June 20	1:00PM	Service, Support and Therapy Animals— Learn about various types of support animals.	Virtual on Teams. RSVP to get the link.
EVERY TUESDAY	8:30- 11:30 AM	EFMP Family support services available at a second location	Branch Health Clinic here on MCB Hawaii

Kūlia i ka Nu'u  
Pursue personal excellence

Kūlia i ka nu'u - This is the value of accomplishment and achievement. The literal translation for Kūlia i ka Nu'u is "strive to reach the summit." Those who have this value continually pursue improvement and personal excellence. For them, the most satisfying competition is with themselves: They consider their life and everything within it to be a work in progress, and they enjoy the effort.