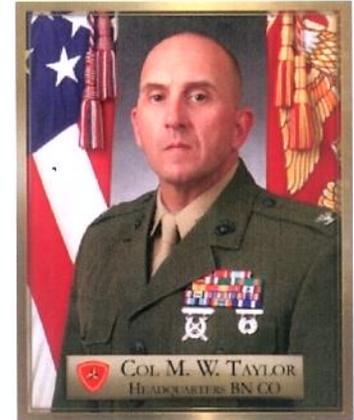


Headquarters Battalion Commander's Policy on Family Readiness



Our families play a vital role in the readiness of Headquarters Battalion and affect the success of our mission. Just as we are responsible to prepare our Marines and Sailors for any mission we must prepare our families as well. They must be able to weather the long periods of separation and demands of training and combat operations. If our families are not ready, we are not ready.

Today's Marine Corps Family Readiness Program has been greatly enhanced to include our single Marines and Sailors as well as our married Marines and Sailors. It encompasses not only spouses and parents, but has been expanded to include extended family members as well as close friends and we will reach out and support them as they too are closely tied to our war-fighters. It is important for you to know your Family Readiness Officer (FRO). It is the FRO who will execute notifications to your family while in garrison and upon deployment and keep them informed until you return home. Everyone occasionally needs assistance. Sometimes it can be as simple as knowing where to go for help while other times it might be a need for some complex resources.

I take personal ownership of this program and challenge each of you to prepare our families; empower them with the knowledge offered by the many organizations here on Okinawa. The programs offered seek to educate, train and prepare our family members for the challenges of the military lifestyle. The Family Readiness Program Volunteers are a critical cornerstone to our Family Readiness Program, we must continue to recruit and retain qualified volunteers in order for our program to succeed.

I encourage all the Marines & Sailors and their families to bring their Family Readiness issues to my Family Readiness Officer. I have specifically tasked her with supporting families and helping them bring the right resources to bear on their concerns.

For those who have or wish to volunteer to assist the Family Readiness Officer, you have my sincerest thanks.

MICHAEL W. TAYLOR
Colonel
United States Marine Corps