Military Families Learning Network



USDA



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eXtension is partnering with The Office of the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense Military Community and Family Policy (MC&FP), and the United States Department of Agriculture/National Institute of Food and Agriculture (USDA/NIFA) with the following objectives in place:

- Increase availability of research- and evidence-based educational resources meeting the educational needs of the military family service professionals (MFSPs) who serve military families and communities;
- Enhance existing Communities of Practice (CoPs) that meet immediate and emerging needs of MFSPs;
- Create and expand professional development opportunities for MFSPs focused on using social media strategies in the teaching and learning environment;
- Create opportunities for Cooperative Extension System (CES) professionals, members of the MFLN, and MFSPs to engage, discover resources, and collaborate around issues pertinent to MFSPs and military families;
- Provide opportunities to build relationships among CES professionals and MFSPs;
- Identify and develop new resources and content addressing priority issues of military and nonmilitary communities;
- Increase opportunities for communities, organizations, etc., to engage with the CES to strengthen community capacity in support of MFSPs.



The Military Families Learning Network is made up of Cooperative Extension family specialists and MFSPs from DoD, branch services, and non-governmental organizations. These online communities engage in various places like <u>blogs.extension.org/militaryfamilies/</u>, Facebook <u>facebook.com/militaryfamilies</u>, Twitter <u>twitter.com/milfamLN</u>, and on DoD authorized social sites.

In addition to these online communities, professional development opportunities through web conferencing [learn.eXtension.org] and online asynchronous learning modules are available for MFSPs. <u>eXtension.org/militaryfamilies</u> serves as the hub for the online activities and engagement for the Military Families Learning Network.

The primary concentration areas for the Military Families Learning Network are Personal Finance, Family Development, Network Literacy, Military Caregiving, Child Care, Community Capacity Building, and Relocation.