Supportive Partnerships for Military Families of Children with Disabilities
Objectives

• How Federally funded Parent Centers can support Military Families with exceptional needs in Virginia and elsewhere

• How the Branch supports Federally funded Parent Centers

• How to build/nurture relationships between the Federally funded Parent Centers and military installations, families, and educators
My Story
My Family
Our Journey

Diagnosis @ 2 Years

PCS @ 2 and a half years

PCS @ 5 and a half years
One of a Kind

The Branch is a one-of-a-kind cooperative agreement established to assist federally funded parent centers across the U.S., in supporting military parents who have children with disabilities.
The Branch (MPTAC) will build the capacity of Parent Centers to provide effective services to military parents of children and youth with disabilities in military families.
Universal Goal
Providing information, resources and technical assistance related to supporting military families who have children with disabilities across the nation.

Targeted Goal
Identify the gaps in information and areas which can be fortified with additional resources to support both the EFMP programs and Parent Centers.

Intensive Goal
Per request, The Branch will provide intensive phone and/or one on one technical assistance, within the 10 most affected states.
The Big Picture

92 Parents Centers in the U.S. and its Territories

6 Regional Parent Technical Assistance Centers

3 National Parent Technical Assistance Centers (to include The Branch)
  • Center for Parent Information and Resources (CPIR)
  • Native American Parent Technical Assistance Center (NAPTAC)
# Available and Current Resources

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Ten Highest Impacted States

California
Hawaii
Florida
Georgia
Kentucky
North Carolina
South Carolina
Texas
Virginia
Washington
MILITARY WIDE Numbers
The Numbers

42,289 is the estimated number of Active Duty Families with children who have special needs

73% of children with special needs are between the ages of 4 and 17

64% of children with special needs are male
An estimated total of 2,182 families who have a child with special needs and eligible for the Exceptional Family Member Program are NOT enrolled in the program.
2014 Military Family Lifestyle Survey says families main concerns (for their EFM’s) are:

- PCS
- Vocational Services
- Early Intervention
- SSI/SSDI
- Access to Respite Care
- Accessing community or State based supports
The Great State of Virginia
83,937 AD  39,749 National Guard and Reserves
Collaborative Efforts in VA

• PEATC (Parent Educational Advocacy Training Center)

• Formed Families Forward (the area’s Community Parent Resource Center)

• STOMP (Specialized Training of Military Parents)
Parent Centers in your own backyard

Assist

www.branchta.org

www.parentcenterhub.org
Military families of children with special needs are an underserved population with a need for information and resources tailored to their children’s needs and the particularities of being military families.

The network of federally funded Parent Centers will provide effective services to military parents of children and youth with disabilities in military families, services that improve the educational outcomes of children and youth with disabilities and empowers families and youth.

Learn about the Parent Centers and The Branch to see how you can build relationships with the centers to better support military families of children with disabilities.
You will be able to turn to Parent Centers to provide assistance to military families in your schools and communities since:

*There are nearly 4 million children living throughout the U.S. who have had a parent serve in the U.S. Military since 9/11. It is likely that there is a military or veteran-connected child in every school district in America.*

As a Result
Why We Do It
COMMENTS or QUESTIONS?