

FALL | 2009



EFMP *Observer*

ASSISTING WITH THE SPECIAL NEEDS
OF SOLDIERS AND FAMILY MEMBERS.

Come Out and Have Fun at the Accessible Playground

As a child, being able to play at the playground is one of life's greatest joys. There's lots of laughter, exploration, family time, and great memories made, all while spending time at the playground.

Having a disability often makes it difficult for children with exceptional needs to partake in activities or join in on the fun at the playground. Activities such as swinging, sliding, reaching the highest deck, are either not safe or difficult for some Family members to maneuver.

Here at Ft. Benning, we are proud to say that we have a playground where all children can play! At our accessible playground your Family will find accessible ramps, swings, a sliding board, and other activities that will make going to the playground an exciting adventure for everyone! So come on out this Fall to play, while the weather is cool and don't forget your camera to preserve the great memories all while having fun at the playground.



The Fort Benning Accessible Playground is located on Ingersoll (across from Faith Middle School).



October is Employment Disability Awareness

October is Disability Employment Awareness Month and Sayers Memorial Library has a display containing books, Exceptional Family Member Program resource materials and guides related to various disabilities.

Soldiers and Families may visit the Army Community Service, EFMP office in Building 2624 at Soldiers' Plaza to pick up resource magazines, directories, and giveaways.

Family members enrolled in EFMP who meet specific medical and educational criteria may qualify for respite care services. For more information, call 545-5521.

Support Group Exchange



The Fort Benning EFMP offers support and information sharing through its' monthly Support Group Exchange held every 3rd Thursday of the month in Bldg. 2626 from 1100-1200.

Meetings are Open to all special needs Families who need support, resources and respite care.

For childcare information, call ACS EFMP, 706-545-5521/2679 "The official Ft Benning" EFMP Support Group"

EFMP RESPITE NIGHT OUT

Friday Dates

OCTOBER 9

NOVEMBER 13

DECEMBER 11

Time: 6:30 PM-10:30PM

For more information on the Exceptional Family Member Program, Respite Care, resource information or questions you may have, please call 706-545-5521 or 706-545-2679. Please visit us on the web at www.benningmwr.com/acs-efmp.php.

Friday Night Special Dance



This dance is for people with all disabilities and their Families. The dance is held on the last Friday of every month from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

This year we will be meeting in a NEW location: The Northside Recreation Center on the campus of Northside High School off Veterans Parkway.

Admission is free – Please help by bringing some type of refreshment to share. Music is provided by a deejay. We hope to see you there!

(706) 748-2205

(706) 544-1170

Extended Care Health Option (ECHO)

The Extended Care Health Option (ECHO) is a supplemental program to the basic TRICARE program. ECHO provides financial assistance for an integrated set of services and supplies to eligible active duty family members.

There is no enrollment fee for ECHO, however family members must have an ECHO-qualifying condition, enroll in the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), and register in ECHO through ECHO case managers in each TRICARE region. To learn more about ECHO, please call 1.800.444.5445 or visit the website at www.tricare.mil.

Website Resources for Families

American Heart Association	www.americanheart.org
Attention Deficit Disorder	www.addresource.org
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America	www.cdfa.org
Easter Seals Therapeutic Childcare and other Resources	www.easterseals.com
Ft. Benning CARE Newsletter (Click Publications Link)	www.benningmwr.com
Georgia Special Olympics	www.gachi.org
Georgia Vocational Rehabilitation Program	www.vocrehabga.org
Guide to Family Fun and Beyond	www.muscogeemoms.com
Information for Parents on Autism	www.autismspeaks.org
Lowes Syndrome Association	www.lowesyndrome.org
Medicaid Website	www.cms.hhs.gov
Mental Health America	www.nmha.org
Muscogee County Autism Support Group	www.mcasg.net
Muscular Dystrophy Association	www.mdaua.org
National Down Syndrome Society	www.ndss.org
National Kidney Foundation	www.kidney.org
Organization Providing Grants for Medical Equipment	www.fragilekids.org
Stuttering Foundation of America	www.stutteringhelp.org

***Please contact the ACS EFMP for links to more information on local and national resources available to you and your Family.