

C PERATORS



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Total Participants served by MMC in 2012:

Military:

240

Civilian:

147

MOVING...SLOWLY

Yes! We've moved our home and office back to the suburbs of Ft. Worth to make work and commuting easier. In addition to unpacking, we are adjusting our life style away from country living.

Our new office address is:

**509 Fairhaven Court,
Burleson, TX 76028**

New office phone: 682-730-1818

We were unable keep our old office number (903-874-0077) to maintain continuity, so please change this in your records.

Thus, this newsletter and end of year report for 2012 are delayed as we sort through the boxes marked "desk stuff" packed at the last minute.

We decided to move during the slow time of the year after the holidays. But that doesn't mean we've been slacking off.

Now that we are fairly settled, we can report on what the company has been doing.

GRANT SEASON

In addition to moving, we've been working on grant applications. Here's a brief summary:

We applied for a grant from the Bob Woodruff Family Foundation to cover our 4 classes with Camp COPE. The Foundation was one of the founding sponsors of Camp COPE. The grant committee preferred to work through Camp COPE with whom they already have a relationship. We should hear from them in August 2013. Until then, Camp COPE has been paying our lodging and accommodations (MMC provides travel, facilitators and workbooks.)

We completed and mailed a \$65,000 grant request from the Texas Veterans Commission to do marriage and relationship programs through our contacts at the Vet Centers in North Texas.

Combined Federal and State Charity Campaign apps are due in March. We will re-apply to MGN and Newman's Own.

Sponsors & Donors

Our special thanks to NAS-JRB Fort Worth Robert P. Taylor Chapel who sent us a donation to provide a future class on base. We will soon announce a date for the Spring.



HELP US HELP THOSE WHO SERVE OUR COUNTRY

You can donate directly on our website to help support our mission:

www.marriage-management.org/donate.html

Buying or Selling Property???

MMC participates in Brokers for Charity

Which Offers Real Estate Buyers and Sellers a New Way Support Their Favorite Nonprofit --- Without Spending Money



Visit: **www.brokersforcharity.com**

Fourth Quarter 2012 Program Report

Ft. Hood, October 24: 32 people attended an eight hour class — 11 married couples, 3 engaged couples (who also received the Two-gether in Texas marriage license discount) and 2 spouses attending alone. Ms. Billy Floyd, Mr. Albert Rodriguez and Ms. Rachel Lluveras from the Fort Hood Family Advocacy Program provided marketing support, venue, participant manuals, snacks and supplies. The U.S. Army ACS and MWR also endorsed the program.

Marriage Management provided the program, a qualified and experienced married couple as instructors (us), marketing flyer, registration, program administration as well as coffee, breakfast items, fruit and some snacks. Lunch for participants was on their own. Program funding was provided by the MGN Family Foundation.

Ft. Belvoir, Virginia Oct 27: 8 people (4 couples) attended our class in conjunction with Camp COPE. Great discussions and skits helped the day pass too quickly.

A gracious donation from Bob & Barbara Lovelace as well as CFC funds supported that class happen. Attending were three career military couples located in the D.C. area.

Mo Ranch, Dec 1-2, Camp COPE: 21 wounded warriors and their families attended. (8 couples, 5 spouses with deployed husbands).

The weather was great to enjoy the serenity of Mo Ranch. Instead of our usual chuck wagon dinner by the river, we enjoyed a camp fire and s' mores.

MMC provided the funding for the books and facilitators; Camp COPE provided the arrangements and accommodations. Many thanks to Sara and Elizabeth.

Congratulations to our MMC Board member and family lawyer, **Mark Wiser**, who recently represented an active duty Sgt. Terry Achene whose child was placed in adoption when he was transferred from Texas to South Carolina. Mark & Terry were interviewed by CNN Anderson Cooper, Good Morning America and Inside Edition. Mark is a family law attorney who has been part of the MMC board since 2006. Mark reviews contracts for MMC and offers legal insight.

Great job, Mark!

MILESTONES FOR FRIENDS OF MMC

Our chief marketing contact in Fleet & Family Services at NAS-JRB, **Karen Fitzgerald**, has accepted a new job at the Vet Center in Ft. Worth. She is already referring Marriage Management to clients. **Best wishes and thanks, Karen!**

Our long time friend, **George (Tim) Dorsey** has retired as a VA Counselor at the Harker Heights Texas VA center. He will continue his work as a Deacon at Holy Family Church in Copperas Cove. Tim is one of our advisors for programs. **Enjoy Retirement, Tim!**

Bob & Barbara Zielinski celebrated a 43rd wedding anniversary on 2/20!



The Best Part

Here are actual participant comments from evaluations of our last two classes in 2012:

What I liked most about this class was...

- "Made everyone participate."
- "It was fun and very informative. Kind people and understanding."
- "Was helpful learning about communications."
- "The one on one activities with spouse."
- "Learning about not arguing and how to communicate."
- "Exercises to practice tools and information perceived."
- "Comedy, interaction and snacks."
- "It was very informative. This class will greatly help with my marriage & my other relationships/friendships."
- "Great information to be used for everyday situations with your spouse."
- "Very interactive, allowed me to get to know my fiancé."
- "Being able [to] get a deeper understanding of how to deal with things in our marriage."
- "Learning it is possible to settle an issue politely & orderly."
- "It was very informative and fun. Lot's of useful tools I can use."
- "All the 'tools' that we received to help our marriage."
- "The tools that we were given & how they were presented."
- "The instructors were married and they were complete opposites. It's a good visual aid to see how it can work. I liked the time given us to practice the techniques taught."
- "Having my spouse here to complete the exercises. Seeing the results was great! The structure was very useful & helpful."
- "Different from previous participation."
- "How all of the tools were broken down very simply so each partner could address a problem."
- "The amount of interaction between the participants."
- "That married people taught it and that I didn't feel weird for coming alone."
- "I liked that it went deep on the issues of conflicts, issues that create conflicts, how it recognized these & more importantly how to improve it. I liked we had the time to put these teachings to the test by presenting issues to our spouse (on our own) to work on them and talk them through- I loved it- it helped my marriage in just 5 hours- I wonder what I'd be or do longer."
- "That I was able to express my feelings with one I love- my husband."
- "Meeting new people."
- "Over all info and techniques to overcome problems in our daily life while married. Thank you for all the help."
- "The tools given are simple to use and very effective. Will definitely use them."
- "It gave us new and easy tools to communicate and deal with the problems we are having in our relationship and family."
- The skills that I have learned., Interaction."
- "The handouts to take home to try at home, (good homework)"
- "Great teachers."
- "The interaction and presentation. Excellent!!"
- "I liked that the class was very hands on."
- "Everything! The 10 bad things to not do [destructive behaviors] were great though. It made me notice what I've been doing without knowing it."
- "Interactive."
- "Learning positive communication skills for listening and overcoming issues without fighting."
- "Avoiding destructive behaviors (lesson); SMART card."
- "Multiple methods of training."
- "The friendly environment."
- "Materials, instructors."
- "There was a lot of interaction among instructors and participants."
- "The interactive activities with couples."
- "It was realistic, even the conferences [facilitators] put examples of their problems and situations. Excellent!!! X 10"



Facilitator's Note: Our teaching method is sharing personal examples and then encouraging others to look at their own real life situations. Participants then practice the communication skills learned. It helps us to know when the classes make a difference.

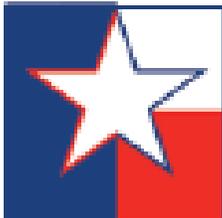


PARTNERS

These Organizations Supported
The Military Marriage Enrichment Project in 2012



Fleet and Family Support Center



State Employees Charitable Campaign
TOGETHER WE CARE



NEWMAN'S OWN®



THANK YOU !



Other participants' comments and suggestions:

"It was great! We will now be able to handle things better. Thank you!"

"Thank you!"

"Would like to attend another class as wonderful as this one. Thank you for your time and wisdom."

"Thank you so much for serving military families."

"Loved it- should be invited to the army couples/ family retreats."

"Overall the course was great. I learned so much. I cried on both days. I love my family and I [think] many other people would benefit from attending the class. I want to thank you for opening up my eyes to new ways to help my family. God bless."

"Great class, learned a great deal and how to re-connect with my love."



TIME

When we ask what folks didn't like about the Military Marriage Enrichment class, we inevitably get comments like these:



"It wasn't long enough."

"That it was such a short time."

"The time is not enough."

"That we need more time."

"Not enough time to cover more information."

"I liked everything; don't change it."

"The time: This could be a good conference of 8 weeks duration. Finishing with a romantic dinner."

**Time together is so precious to our men and women in uniform.
Help them make the most of it.**

THE MILITARY MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT PROGRAM—WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?



- ◆ 8 hour class or overnight retreat
- ◆ Presented by a veteran married couple
- ◆ Safe, relaxed, fun atmosphere
- ◆ A chance to reconnect with your spouse or loved one
- ◆ Group activities, private exercises and shared wisdom
- ◆ Time to develop better relationship and resiliency skills
- ◆ Manage triggers and destructive behaviors
- ◆ Tips on communication styles & conflict resolution
- ◆ Hints for staying in love and supporting each other
- ◆ Participants receive a 200 page participant manual, a Certificate of Completion and a special commemorative coin

MMC uses Active Relationship's Military Life and Resiliency Skills and other certified curricula.



Does the Military Marriage Enrichment class have impact?

- ◇ 100% of our attendees write that they would recommend the class to a friend!
- ◇ 99.6% of our class evaluations were positive with 82.5% receiving the highest rating!



"This Saved Our Marriage!"

MARRIAGE SHOULD NOT BE A HIDDEN CASUALTY OF WAR!

YOU CAN HELP BY DONATING NOW. CONSIDER HOSTING A FUNDRAISER TO HELP US FUND MORE PROGRAMS.

Texas State & Federal Government workers

If you receive a Texas State or Federal government paycheck, consider charitable giving!

Give a little, do a lot!

Our charity code for

Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) is 17228

For **State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC)** our code is **283522**

IF YOU OWN A BUSINESS, PLEASE CONSIDER MAKING THE MILITARY MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT PROJECT A PARTNER.



Serving those who serve our country

Contact Information:

Marriage Management
509 Fairhaven Court
Burleson, Texas 76028

Office: 682-730-1818

Mobile: 817-465-1001

Fax: 817-796-1111

Website:

www.marriagemanagement.org

Email:

info@marriagemanagement.org