EFMP Exceptional Family Member Program

Navy Exceptional Family Member Program South Carolina

March 2026

A monthly newsletter to keep you connected to resources and events across the Palmetto State and throughout the Navy Region Southeast.

March is Developmental Disabilities Education Month

Source: https://www.nationaldisabilityinstitute.org/press/march-is-developmental-disabilities-awareness-month/

In 1987, President Reagan recognized March as Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month to increase "public awareness of the needs and the potential of Americans with developmental disabilities" and to provide the "encouragement and opportunities they need to lead productive lives and to achieve their full potential." According to the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** (CDC), developmental disabilities are defined as impairments in physical, learning, language or behavior areas, and include: **Autism spectrum disorders, Cerebral palsy, Attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, Learning or intellectual disabilities, Hearing loss, Vision impairment, Other developmental delays**

Resource Highlight: The Arc of South Carolina

The Arc is a nationwide organization that promotes and protects the rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Arc believes that people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and their families have differing support needs. The Arc promotes support through community-based education, services, and resources to address these needs. The Case Management Team at the Arc addresses a wide scope of needs and helps to enroll individuals to receive services with the South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs.

For information about the Arc of South Carolina, visit https://www.arcsc.org/
To learn about Arc Case Management services, visit https://www.arcsc.org/case-management
South Carolina Resource Directory (Summer Camps Included): https://www.arcsc.org/scdisabilityresourcedirectory

Additional Local Support Resources

Beyond Basic - https://www.beyondbasiclifeskills.org/
Able South Carolina - https://www.able-sc.org/
The Lighthouse for the Blind - https://lhblind.org/
SOS Care - https://soscaresc.org/

Upcoming Events*

Disclaimer:** These are some of **many** events being held throughout the state. **No Federal Endorsement Intended

Lowcountry:

March 1: EFMP Sensory Jump at Flight Adventure Park (North Charleston)
March 6: Caregiver Support Group w/ Lowcountry Autism Foundation (Charleston)
March 8, 22: CML Superstars Sensory Friendly Time (Children's Museum of the Lowcountry – Charleston)
March 14: Parents Afternoon Out (respite) at We Rock the Spectrum w/ Lowcountry Autism (Summerville)
March 15: Pizza & Peers at Luxe Bistro w/ Lowcountry Autism (Summerville)
March 21: Music Therapy Groups w/ Lowcountry Autism (Bluffton and Charleston)
Ongoing: NAMI Virtual Support Groups (High School, Adults, & Family groups) (Charleston)

Midlands:

March 4: Disability Advocacy Day (Columbia)
March 10: Sensory Friendly Day at Riverbanks Zoo (Columbia)
March 27: Hopes & Dreams Conference (Columbia)

Pee Dee:

March 14: Sensory Friendly Visit at Ripley's Aquarium (Myrtle Beach)
For general information, visit: https://www.visitmyrtlebeach.com/article/sensory-friendly-attractions-in-the-myrtle-beach-area

Upstate:

Ongoing: Inclusive Recreation with Greenville CAN

Virtual (State-wide):

Pathways to Employment and Independent Living – Self-paced (Family Connection SC)
March 10: WAZE to Adulthood: Building Communication & Advocacy Skills (Family Connection SC)

The Center

Check out this month's Fleet & Family Support Family Connection Newsletter and webinar schedule:
https://ffr.cnic.navy.mil/Family-Readiness/Fleet-And-Family-Support-Program/Family-Connection-Newsletter/

Webinars at www.MyNavyFamily.com

3/5: The Road Ahead – Special Needs Future Planning
3/10: Intro to the Exceptional Family Member Program
3/25: Burnout – Restoring Balance for the EFM Family
3/31: Your Compass to a Robust IEP

Stay updated on the **Exceptional Family Member Program** here:

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