



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON, DC

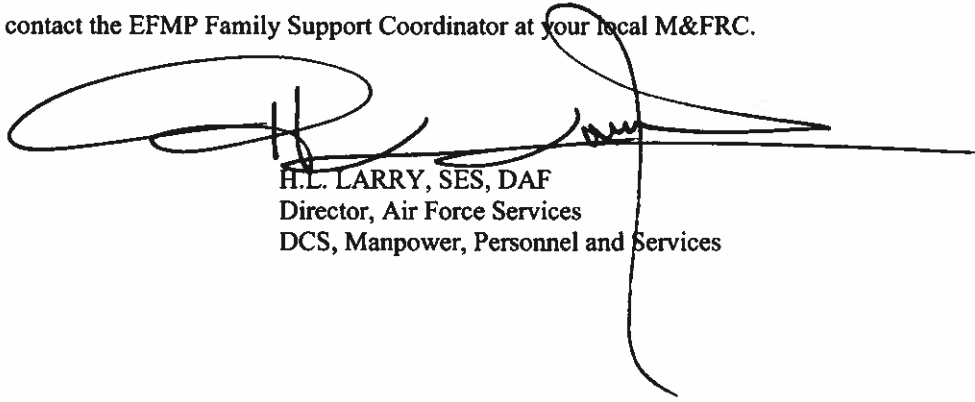
04 October 2023

MEMORANDUM FOR EFMP FAMILIES ELIGIBLE FOR RESPITE CARE

FROM: AF/A1S
1040 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1130

SUBJECT: Implementation of Standardized Respite Care Benefits; 1 March 2025

1. You are receiving this notification because you have registered for, or are eligible for, respite care at your current location. Respite care, provided through the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), is a program benefit that provides temporary support to qualifying families. The FY21 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) Sec 582 (Public Law 116-283), directed the **standardization** of the EFMP program across the Military Departments, to include the provision of EFMP respite care. As a result, many Department of Air Force (DAF) families will experience a decrease in respite care benefits.
2. In the past, each branch of service managed their respite care program differently. This variation in management resulted in gaps in delivery, inconsistent availability of support, and varying family experiences. Standardization consists of both eligibility for respite care and the number of hours allocated, per family, based on a Level of Need (LoN) determination using age-specific rubrics/grading instruments. Members with dependents with profound needs, to include adults, will be considered LoN 4 and will receive 32 hours per month of respite care per family. Members with dependents with moderate needs will be considered LoN 3 and will receive 20 hours per month of respite care per family. LoNs 1 & 2 will be ineligible for respite care. Respite care will no longer include sibling care.
3. While the program is changing, DAF's commitment to families enrolled in EFMP remains steadfast. Implementation of these changes will be phased-in and during this transition, DAF families will continue to receive respite care benefits, at their current level, until 1 Mar 2025.
4. Your installation EFMP-Family Support Coordinators (FSC) will work with you regarding how your family will revalidate respite care eligibility. They will also work to help mitigate any negative impact and identify additional local resources.
5. *The DAF is working to ensure a seamless transition for our families* and is executing an implementation timeline that is deliberate and transparent. The attached EFMP Respite Care FAQ provides additional information to address potential questions. As a reminder, changes to respite care benefits will not happen until 1 March 2025.
6. For additional information, please contact the EFMP Family Support Coordinator at your local M&FRC.



H.L. LARRY, SES, DAF
Director, Air Force Services
DCS, Manpower, Personnel and Services

Attachment:
EFMP Respite Care Sheet

cc: AFPC/DPFX