

MILITARY CAREGIVING NEWSLETTER



Minimizing Holiday Chaos: Routine Management for Children with Special Needs

December 11, 2019 | 11 A.M. ET

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For parents of children with special needs or disabilities, “spontaneous” and “carefree” are not words that can be associated with a holiday. Holidays can be chaotic for children with special needs particularly due to unfamiliarity, sensory overload and a lack of usual support systems.



[Kinship Caregiving & Military Families](#)

Kinship care is an arrangement in which extenuating circumstances place parental duties in the hands of a relative or close family friend. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, these arrangements can be informal, formal, temporary or, voluntary. Informal arrangements are mutual childcare arrangements between parent and the kinship care provider that lack official, legal recognition. Formal arrangements place legal custody within the state kinship care provider.



[The Uncertainty of Cancer](#)

When doctors mention the “C” word, referencing cancer feelings of uncertainty surface immediately. Uncertainty is a feeling that is always with the cancer victim and the family as they move through the cancer journey. There isn’t anything throughout the cancer journey in which uncertainty isn’t in some form or another. It surfaces during doctor’s appointments, treatments, when making plans, and even during daily activities. As a mother of a cancer victim, uncertainty is with me every day.



[Finding Hope through the Cancer Journey](#)

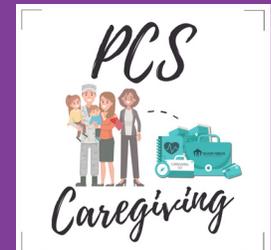
Whenever I talk with someone about my son’s cancer, the conversation eventually turns to the topic of hope. They tell me how important it is for my son, me and other family members to have hope. But exactly what is hope and how does it play into the cancer journey and healing process? In my research for information on hope, I found that hope is basically a belief that a positive outcome lies ahead. People hope for different things at different times in their cancer journey.

UPCOMING EVENTS

[Family System Trends & Transitions: What They Mean for Military Families](#)
JAN. 14 @ 11:00 A.M. ET

[Special Needs Trusts & ABL Accounts](#)
FEB. 26 @ 11:00 A.M. ET

PODCASTS



[Available on iTunes!](#)

PCS (Permanent Change of Station) is a common term used in the military as service members and families transition to different duty stations; but, it can be useful in describing the transition military caregivers experience as they care for wounded warriors or individuals with special health care needs. In this podcast series, we’ll discuss a variety of family caregiving issues & how helping professionals can better serve military families as they PCS from their role as a spouse, friend, partner, or loved one to a caregiver.



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Military Families Learning Network