

||| | ★ *Captain's Call* ●

Community Support "Mall" Aids New Orleans Service Members in Need

A Community Support Center (CSC) was instituted at Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NAS JRB) New Orleans in September to help Sailors, Marines, Coast Guardsmen, Soldiers and Airmen who were affected by Hurricane Katrina.

The CSC team consists of workers who have come from other military facilities across the country to support members of all branches of service who are assisting in the relief efforts in New Orleans.

Personnel Support Detachment New Orleans, Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) staff, and the Navy/Marine Corps Relief Society teamed together to provide services to help military members cope with the storm's impact.

These services include assisting personnel with evacuation claims, counseling, information referral services, helping service members apply for entitlements, and financial assistance.

Much of the assistance centers on providing information to the service members to ensure they understand what assets are available to them. Briefs are held at least twice daily to explain the programs and the processes for obtaining assistance. FEMA and the American Red Cross, as well as military programs, provided the information.

Although financial support is often the first issue, the team, including three counselors, is in place to help personnel cope with issues like home repairs, family separations, upcoming relocations, and more.

For Navy Family members who need additional information or assistance please call the Navy Personnel Command's Emergency Coordination Center at (877) 414-5358.

