



# *Workforce Development Board*

*of  
Okaloosa and Walton Counties*

Sylvia Hanks, Chairperson

Mary Lou Reed, Executive Director

DATE: December 12, 2008

FROM: Workforce Development Board

TO: Northwest Florida BRAC Family Transition Council

RE: U.S. Army Seventh Special Forces Group (Airborne) Transition Update

With the recent signing of a Record of Decision by the Secretary of Air Force, the level and pace of activity supporting the move of the U.S. Army Seventh Special Forces (Airborne) Group from Ft. Bragg to Eglin AFB is starting to accelerate. Some initial evidence of that was seen with the December 8-10 visit to our area by representatives of the 7<sup>th</sup> SFG(A) Family Readiness Group. Several members of the Workforce Development Staff met with this group and offered a comprehensive overview of services that will be available to transitioning spouses and family members. Additional visits were conducted throughout the area as this advance team gathered data and impressions to take back to Ft. Bragg and share with their fellow spouses.

In light of this long-awaited acceleration of activity, the Workforce Development Board/*JobsPlus* has elevated the status of our two-year old BRAC Planning Committee and transformed it into the new *Northwest Florida BRAC Family Transition Council*.

The attached Council Roster has been significantly broadened from our previous committee roster in an effort to reach out and include the widest possible representation from organizations likely to play a part in supporting the transition from Ft. Bragg to Eglin. Some of you will see your names on the roster for the first time, while others will notice several Point of Contact updates due to recent personnel and employment changes. This roster is intended to be a flexible and dynamic list that will likely evolve as we get closer to the actual relocation of the troops and their families.

With the above as background, we would ask that you accept this invitation to attend a meeting of the Northwest Florida BRAC Family Transition Council scheduled for **Monday, January 12, 2009 at 9:00 a.m. at JobsPlus – Fort Walton Beach location.**

The purpose of this meeting will be to ensure we are all on the same page with regard to information related to the 7<sup>th</sup> SFG (A) and be sure we have in place the mechanisms necessary to facilitate communication among our organizations that will result in a coordinated community effort to support our soon-to-be new neighbors. This communication and coordination will be essential if we are to make this transition as seamless and successful as possible.

We thank you in advance for your support and ask that you RSVP to DeDe Haynes at [dhaynes@jobsplus02.com](mailto:dhaynes@jobsplus02.com).

Thank you,

Jim Breitenfeld  
DeDe Haynes  
Workforce Development Board of Okaloosa and Walton Counties

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