

Fayetteville Technical Community College
Tony Rand Student Center
January 29, 2026

- 9:00 a.m.** **Welcome**
Sam Metzler, Chief Deputy Secretary, NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Murtis Worth, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Services, Fayetteville Technical Community College
- 9:05 a.m.** **Remarks**
Kirk DeViere, Chair, Cumberland County Board of Commissioners
- 9:10 a.m.** **Blue Star Families**
Jennifer Akin, MPA, Vice President of Strategic Alliances and White Oak Collaborative
- 9:20 a.m.** **Department of War Outlook on Childcare**
Samantha Sliney, Esq., Southeast Regional Liaison, Department of War
- 9:45 a.m.** **Tri Share Update**
Fred Hunter, Director of Programs and Business Development, Smart Start
- 10:05 a.m.** **Early Care and Education**
Angela Lewis, CFLE, Early Care and Education Manager, Smart Start
- 10:30 a.m.** **Respite Care of America**
Francisco Jamison, Executive Director, Respite Care of America
- 11:00 a.m.** **Lunch**
Lunch on your own
- 12:00 p.m.** **Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**
Secretary Jocelyn Mitnaul Mallette, NC Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
- 12:05 p.m.** **Panel Discussion / State of Childcare on Military Installations**
Margaret Lilly, Chief, Child & Youth Services - Ft. Bragg
Kimberly Gipson, Family Care Program Manager - Camp Lejeune
- 12:55 p.m.** **Work Force Initiatives**
Murtis Worth, Senior Vice President for Academic and Student Services, Fayetteville Technical Community College
- 1:25 p.m.** **Military Child Care In Your Neighborhood-Plus**
Alison Keisler, Policy and Programs, NC Department of Health and Human Services
- 1:45 p.m.** **National Guard Childcare Brief**
SGM Robert T. Shook, Director, NC National Guard Military Family Readiness Programs
- 2:00 p.m.** **Closing Remarks**