



# CREDO

Navy Chaplain Corps Vision: *"Devoted to God and Country, we unite to deliver innovative, life transforming service throughout and beyond the Sea Services."*

## Chaplains Religious Enrichment Program (CREDO)

### CREDO BACKGROUND

In the beginning, CREDO stood for "Chaplains Response to the Emerging Drug Order." CREDO began in 1971 as an experiment led by chaplains and lay persons to confront the use of drugs by Navy and Marine Corps personnel. Because of its thrust, the Assistant Chief of Naval Personnel for Human Goals (Pers-6) provided funding through FY-96. Over time, CREDO evolved in its approach to a new form of retreat ministry that was applicable to a broad spectrum of personal and spiritual development rather than just individuals with drug-related problems. As a result, the Chief of Chaplains (then Pers-9) assumed sponsorship of the CREDO Program in FY97. With the change in emphasis came a change in the meaning of the acronym CREDO: "Chaplains Religious Enrichment Development Operation."

In 1997 the Commandant of the Marine Corps assumed sponsorship of the CREDO Program providing CREDO sites at selected Marine Corps facilities. The positive, pro-active, preventative emphasis and results of CREDO epitomizes the Corps proud tradition of "Taking Care of Our Own".

### VISION STATEMENT

- **CREDO** is the premier, preventative, transformational program beyond Boot Camp for the Sea Services. CREDO provides Military Personnel and Family Members an opportunity to:
  - **Gain self-esteem and self-understanding**
  - **Learn to respect themselves and others**
  - **Accept responsibility for their lives**
  - **Develop healthy spirituality**

### CREDO PURPOSE STATEMENT

CREDO exists to supplement local Commands in readiness of sea-service personnel and their families through specially designed retreat ministries.

The primary target group is sea service personnel and family members to find supporting resources for personal growth, marriage enrichment, spiritual growth, and emotional maturity.

### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of CREDO is to provide appropriate programs of ministry to enable military personnel, their families, and other authorized personnel to develop personal and spiritual resources and grow toward increased functional ability, religious maturity, and acceptance of responsibility.

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## **CREDO SITES INCLUDING WEB PAGES AND PHONE NUMBERS**

**For more information on CREDO see the following links**

**or see [ChaplainCare](http://www.chaplaincare.navy.mil/index.htm) (<http://www.chaplaincare.navy.mil/index.htm>)**

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<b><u>Camp Pendleton</u></b>	Pendleton, CA <a href="http://www.mccscamppendleton.com/qol/mcftb/credo.html">http://www.mccscamppendleton.com/qol/mcftb/credo.html</a>	1-760-725-4954
<b><u>Camp Lejuene</u></b>	Lejuene, NC (near Jacksonville, NC) <a href="http://www.usmc-mccs.org/MCFTB/CREDO/credo_main.asp">http://www.usmc-mccs.org/MCFTB/CREDO/credo_main.asp</a>	1-910-451-2900/2967
<b><u>CREDO Naval Weapons Station Charleston</u></b>	Charleston, SC <a href="http://www.nwschs.navy.mil/chapel/credo1.htm">http://www.nwschs.navy.mil/chapel/credo1.htm</a>	(843) 764-7222/7912
<b><u>CREDO Navy Region Southwest</u></b>	San Diego, CA <a href="http://www.cnrsw.navy.mil/credo/index.htm">http://www.cnrsw.navy.mil/credo/index.htm</a>	(619) 532-1437
<b><u>Europe:</u></b>	(includes: Bahrain, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Spain, United Kingdom) <a href="http://www.nsa.naples.navy.mil/credo/">http://www.nsa.naples.navy.mil/credo/</a>	39-081-568-5255
<b><u>CREDO Middle Atlantic Region</u></b>	Norfolk, VA <a href="http://www.cnрма.navy.mil/staff/credo/credo.html">http://www.cnрма.navy.mil/staff/credo/credo.html</a>	1-757-444-1091 / 1092
<b><u>Okinawa</u></b>	Okinawa, Japan <a href="http://www.mcbbutler.usmc.mil/credo/default.asp">http://www.mcbbutler.usmc.mil/credo/default.asp</a>	011-81-611-645-3041
<b><u>CREDO Northeast</u></b>	Groton, Connecticut <a href="http://www.cnrne.navy.mil/alist/credo/credo.htm">http://www.cnrne.navy.mil/alist/credo/credo.htm</a>	(860) 694-1144
<b><u>Pacific Northwest</u></b>	Bremerton, WA <a href="http://www.credo-pnw.navy.mil/">http://www.credo-pnw.navy.mil/</a>	360-476-3793
<b><u>Hawaii</u></b>	Kaneohe HI <a href="http://www.hawaii.navy.mil/newhomepage/Chapel/credo/index.htm">http://www.hawaii.navy.mil/newhomepage/Chapel/credo/index.htm</a>	808-257-1941/0408

## RETREAT DISCRIPTIONS:

### Personal Growth Retreat (72-Hour PGR)

As the central focus of the CREDO operation, the Personal Growth Retreat (PGR) is an opportunity for individuals to pursue personal and spiritual growth in a quiet natural setting. The purpose of the retreat is to provide participants with (1) the opportunity to understand themselves better and (2) the chance to develop new perspectives in their relationship with God, family, shipmates, the military, and the broader world. Each person is also encouraged to explore the basis of his/her inner spiritual resources. Many participants have described this weekend experience as a turning point in their lives. Each retreat begins on Thursday afternoon (1630), and ends on Sunday afternoon (1600). Personnel attending will meet at the CREDO center on the second floor of Power's Hall, Bldg. 1-A.

### Marriage Enrichment Retreat (MER)

An opportunity for committed couples to explore how they may better grow together in intimacy and love. Couples on this retreat will reflect upon and actively explore the health of their relationship by looking together at where they are in their relationships, how they got there and where they want to go. An individual Personal Growth Retreat is highly recommended prior to attending this retreat. Couples are responsible for making their own child care arrangements.

### Reclaiming The Inner Child Retreat (RIC)

How does one's childhood affect later years? How can one evaluate his/her past and unlearn, relearn, or simply live with it? This retreat helps reveal, heal and nurture one's inner child and discover the difference between childishness and child -likeness. (PGR required)

### CREDO II (Spirituality Retreat)

Designed to assist participants in exploring their journey and welfare. This retreat is for those who are looking for more from life than they are getting from success, status, prestige, and wealth! It is a retreat for persons ready to rethink their attitude and to maturely explore their happiness, growth and spiritual direction. (PGR required)

### CREDO III (Christian Disciplines Retreat)

This retreat will offer quiet time for a walk in the woods, for learning to read the Bible and understand it in a personal way, for experiencing the discipline of silence for prayer, journalizing service, and mentoring. This is the only intentional Christian retreat. For those who have done some work on personal growth and their own spirituality, this retreat is a joyful exploration on how to enrich and extend their spirituality in a specifically Christian way.

### Men's Retreat

What does it mean to be a man these days? How does a boy become a man? The CREDO Men's Retreat offers an opportunity for men to understand their roles and their relationships as husband, father, or son.

### Women's Retreat

This weekend will focus on how social, spiritual and personal issues relate to a woman's image of herself. From relationships with other women in their lives and on the weekend, participants gain understanding of their own path of being a woman.

### Family Retreat

A new retreat this year providing time to support the family as a unit. It also provides an opportunity for families to learn new skills through some teaching, from other families, and in the retreat site's recreational facilities.

### Teen Retreat

Remember when you were a teenager? Did you have any questions about your parents? About life? About God? About yourself? About friendship? Did you wish you had somebody to talk to about them? CREDO has a retreat for your teenager. An opportunity to ask questions, to listen to others' questions and to look for answers together in a loving, supporting environment.