

# The Key Spouse Program

The Key Spouse Program is a unit-based volunteer outreach program; it is a collaborative effort between the unit, the volunteer and the Family Support Center. It is designed to enhance existing family readiness services by providing unit commanders the option of implementing a volunteer-based information and referral network to support unit family issues.

The overall aim of the Key Spouse program is to enhance spouse awareness of and connection to appropriate installation resources. The spouse volunteers serve as links between spouses and families of deployed service members, unit commanders and first sergeants, and other community services and off-base agencies.

By maintaining on-going communication between the Key Spouses and families of deployed members via telephone calls, e-mail messages, newsletters, and social gatherings, it allows waiting families to remain connected with the military community and reduces their sense of isolation.

Waiting families report fewer personal problems during separation due to this connection with their sponsor's squadron, and spouse complaints of dissatisfaction with the AF have decreased since the beginning of the Key Spouse Program.

For more information about the Key Spouse Program, contact the Family Readiness personnel at your base Family Support Center or your unit first sergeant.

