

How to Become a Key Spouse

The Key Spouse program is always looking for energetic spouses that would like to volunteer with this program. There is no experience needed – only a commitment to the program goals and a positive attitude. There are no set appointment lengths, though it is usually preferred if you can commit to an initial year. Time commitments vary by squadron and are usually very flexible.

The Airman and Family Readiness Center provides initial Key Spouse orientation and ongoing advanced training. Basic orientations and advanced training are held quarterly.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a Key Spouse, contact your unit Orderly Room, First Sergeant or the Airman and Family Readiness Center.



My Unit Support Information

My Key Spouse(s)

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Command Section (Orderly Room)

Phone: _____

First Sergeant

Name: _____

Phone: _____

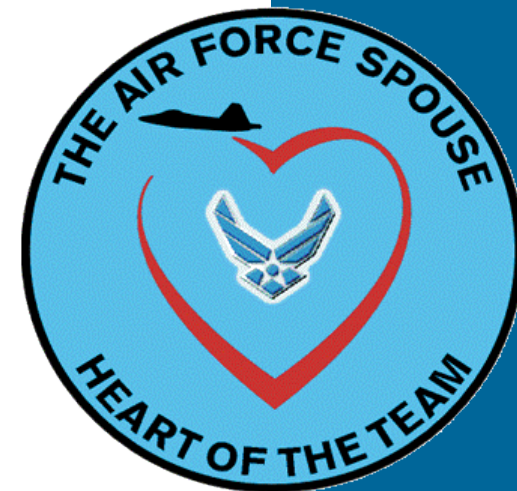
For More Information

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Family Guide to the Beale Key Spouse Program

Partners in Readiness

Framework for Support

Deployments, remote tours, and extended TDYs are a military fact of life. Our active duty members are gone more often and for longer periods of time than in the past. These can be trying times for the family members left at home as they face the many challenges of separation. Spouses are left juggling the home, kids, and careers without the physical support of the military member.

Spouses and families are not left alone during these times. Key Spouses are volunteers appointed by their respective squadron to assist with quality of life programs and services.



The Key Spouse Program provides a framework for stability and support for the families by main-

taining regular contact with family members and referring them to base agencies and squadron resources.

By facilitating the flow of communication between spouses, leadership, and base agencies, the Key Spouse program enhances mission readiness.

Role of the Key Spouse

The role of the Key Spouse includes:

- Building and fostering local support systems for unit families through outreach, education and events.
- Maintaining consistent contact with spouses and families during their period of separation and listening to their concerns.
- Assisting families in finding and utilizing the available base and community resources.
- Serving as a communication and support link between the Commander, First Sergeant, and unit families.

The role of the Key Spouse is not:

- To gossip—Key Spouses are bound by confidentiality and Privacy Act guidelines.
- To counsel—Key Spouses are points of referral. They can point you to the right support organizations but are not trained counselors.
- To judge—Key Spouses understand from first hand experience the difficulties of separation. They will listen to your concerns and refer you to assistance if necessary.

How Can my Key Spouse Help Me?

Key Spouses are a peer-to-peer support system. Just like you they are spouses of unit airmen and have gone through military separations and deployments. They understand the difficulties and rewards of military life and “know what it is like.” They are part of the “chain of concern”, not the “chain of command”, and are able to foster communication with unit leadership by bringing issues and concerns to the table in a neutral and constructive manner. They have extensive knowledge of unit and community programs and organizations and have the resources to get you answers to your questions.

How to Contact Your Key Spouse

Hopefully you get to know your squadron Key Spouses before you need them through informal contact and squadron events. If for whatever reason you don't know who your Key Spouses are please contact your unit Orderly Room. They will have a listing of the current Key Spouse(s) and be happy to refer you to them. You can also contact the Airman and Family Readiness Center. They have a listing of the current Key Spouses on base and will be also able to refer you.
