

HELPING EVERY WARFIGHTER

BE A HERO

ON THE HOMEFRONT



Supporting Warfighters & Families

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
CHAPLAIN SERVICE

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Strong & Ready Families

How to be a Hero at Home, Part One

Within 30 days of redeployment, train warfighters in the AOR to make a successful reunion with family, friends, and co-workers as mandated by AFI 10-403, para 8.7.2.1.

How to Be a Hero at Home, Part Two

Within 7 days of return from the AOR, provide warfighters and spouses with reintegration education and opportunities to enhance communication skills and strengthen their families. (AFI 10-403, para 8.7.2.2).

Strong and Ready Families Retreats and Seminars

Ongoing retreats and seminars for warfighters and spouses that strengthen their relationships using the world renowned Prevention & Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP). This program helped reduce divorces among Army officers by 61% from 3,325 in 2004 to 1,292 in 2005. Studies show PREP trained couples are less likely to divorce, have a decreased incidence of domestic violence, and higher levels of marital satisfaction up to five years after the training.

Airmen Ministry Centers

A best practice model using Airmen leadership and chaplain sponsorship to provide a safe, wholesome place for Airmen to relax, build friendships and grow in a culture of responsible choices. Commanders provide facilities easily accessible to Airmen in the dorms. Staffed by trained volunteer Airmen and supervised by chapel staff, all Airmen are welcome. Chaplains sponsor recreational, educational, inspirational and character-building programs through the centers. Amenities include large screen TVs, game rooms, cyber cafés, meeting rooms, and a chaplain's office.

Lay Ministry Formation

Incorporates widely used trans-denominational training programs to equip volunteers to care for warfighters and families and walk with them through difficult and stressful times. This also includes training and resources for lay leaders at bases where a particular faith group chaplain is not assigned. Several examples of these programs are:

Stephen Ministries

Already used in over 10,000 civilian congregations in the United States, this will train volunteers to provide caring support for Airmen and their families who are grieving or dealing with the stresses of deployment.

Alpha for the Military

A ten-week ecumenical program where young adults enjoy a meal, build friendships and explore the questions of life.

Catholics Seeking Christ

A peer-to-peer young adult ministry program developed by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese for Military Service (AMS) to connect young Catholics to each other and the faith community.