

Pre-Deployment Preparation Briefings

Spouses are invited and highly encouraged to attend with the member!

The Airman and Family Readiness Center offers family friendly pre-deployment preparation briefings that not only educates, but connects our deployers and their family members with deployment relevant resources on base. These are offered each Thursday morning, beginning at 0800, in the Auditorium at our Deployment Processing Center (located across the street from the Commissary). Duration is 2 hours. Spouses are invited and highly encouraged to attend. Our Air Force personnel must attend one within 30 days of deploying. ARCENT personnel have an open invitation to attend. There is something for everyone, whether they are a first-time deployer or a deployment veteran.

0800-0805 - A&FRC Welcome/Agenda
0805-0835 - Antiterrorism/Force Protection
0835-0840 - Red Cross
0840-0845 - Chaplin Agency
0845-0850 - Tricare
0850-0855 - Public Affairs
0855-0910 - A&FRC
0910-0920 - Break
0920-0925 - Legal
0925-0930 - Finance
0930-0940 - Mental Health/Family Advocacy
0940-0945 - Military & Family Life Consultants
0945-0950 - Exceptional Family Member Prgm
0950-0955 - School Liaison Officer
0955-1000 - A&FRC Closing Remarks/Checklists

Details for each:

The Antiterrorism/Force Protection portion focuses on detecting terrorist activities in the planning stages, before they occur; what do terrorists look like, how are they armed, and how are they trained. Who to report suspicious activity to and the threats posed by TCNs that populate our bases down range.

The Red Cross portion focuses on the Red Cross Emergency Notification process and what situations are generally covered. Emergency Notification packets are handed out to assist loved ones through the process should there be an emergency.

The Chaplain portion reiterates their 100% confidentiality, common deployment stressors, and their programs for family members remaining behind.

Tricare covers POA requirements should remaining family members need to handle any Tricare business in their absence. What family members need to do should they relocate for more than 30 days during the deployment, and confidential counseling opportunities for those left behind.

The Airman and Family Readiness Center touches on the emotional cycle of deployment and how it affects their family members, practical deployment preparations, all of the family sustainment programs available on Shaw AFB, and collects family contact information for consistent communication during the deployment.

Public Affairs talks about the dos and don'ts of communicating with embedded media and Geotagging vulnerabilities.

Legal talks about the different kinds of Wills and what each is for, the different Powers of Attorney available, and legal assistance hours for each service.

Finance talks about each financial entitlement based on the deployed location.

Mental Health provides a short pre-deployment resiliency training focused on common downrange stressors. They also talk about the many classes available to stay-behind family members at no cost.

Military Family Life Consultants talk about the services they provide to help family members cope during the deployment, and services to help the entire family reintegrate after.

Exceptional Family Member Program Family Support Coordinator talks about available resources.

School Liaison Officer talks about services provided as well as requirements for children's deployment support groups.

As you can see, it is quite extensive and informative. We have an impressive display of literature and resources for family members and children that the members can take. Spouses Kits are handed out as well as USAA Deployment Kits (when available). We ask that those who plan to attend call the A&FRc at 895-1255 and pre-register to ensure we have enough seating and resources for everyone. Again, spouses are invited and encouraged to attend with their member.