



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
**HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE**  
**WASHINGTON, DC**

OCT 25 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

FROM: AFMOA/CC  
110 Luke Avenue, Room 405  
Bolling AFB, DC 20332-7050

SUBJECT: Providing Support to Air Force Communities

For all of us, recent events have led to increased mission demands. This heightened OPSTEMPO has prompted inquiries to waive requirements associated with the Air Force Family Advocacy and Suicide Prevention Programs.

During these uncertain times, the Air Force community's need for preventive services will be greater than ever. It is crucial that our Family Advocacy and Mental Health staff join other community agencies in providing support to active duty and their family members. Everyone feels the stress of deployment as well as the fear of potential harm to themselves and their loved ones. We need to be creative and resourceful in our approach.

A healthy community with solid support systems is an essential factor in mitigating family stressors and suicide. The Air Force has always prided itself on its ability to "take care of its own." Our leadership at every level is committed to creating a safety net that provides protection and support to those in need. To meet the challenge we must remain vigilant. We cannot afford to become complacent.

The Air Force tradition is defined by our core values. I know I can rely on each of you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gary H. Murray".

GARY H. MURRAY, Brig Gen, USAF, DC  
Commander  
Air Force Medical Operations Agency  
Office of the Surgeon General