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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE WASHINGTON DC 20330-1000

To Airmen and Guardians of the Department of the Air Force:

We feel a deep and heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering dedication to our United States Air Force and Space Force. Your relentless commitment to confronting the pressing security challenges of today and tomorrow fills us with admiration. There lies yet another crucial call that beckons for your immediate attention and compassion—the Air Force Assistance Fund.

The Air Force Assistance Fund is more than just a fundraiser; it is a lifeline that directly supports our brave Airmen and Guardians. This essential fund supports four vital charities that offer emergency financial assistance, interest-free loans, educational grants, relocation assistance, childcare grants, and vital programs that span the globe. It provides critical support for surviving spouses and a caring community for widows and widowers of our dedicated Department of the Air Force retirees. In our darkest times, the Air Force Assistance Fund stands resolutely by our service members. During Hurricanes Helene and Milton, these charities provided an astonishing \$4 million and counting to more than 5,000 members and their families, a testament to its profound impact.

Yet, tragically, participation rates have reached an all-time low after a decade of decline. While the Air Force Assistance Fund serves as a beacon of hope, contributions have now fallen below \$3 million annually. The urgent needs of today are met by the selfless generosity of those who came before us, but we cannot allow this vital support to falter. We must restore funding to ensure the long-term health of this critical fund. If we fail to act now, the help our Airmen and Guardians depend on may not be available when unexpected challenges arise—moments that can change lives forever.

February 24, 2025 marks the beginning of the 52nd Air Force Assistance Fund campaign. Please consider supporting the only fund that is *For Airmen & Guardians*, *By Airmen and Guardians*. Your contribution can reignite the spirit of solidarity and compassion that defines our community. To gain deeper insights into the work undertaken by Air Force Assistance Fund charities, we invite you to visit https://www.afassistancefund.org. #ForAirmenAndGuardians

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