



Hi Kids!

We'd like to personally welcome you to Keesler Youth Programs and introduce you to the many exciting activities we have in store for you! In this brochure you'll find some helpful information about the programs we have to offer!



We really like it here and we know that you will too. Our staff is trained, experienced and CPR and First Aid certified. We're here to help you enjoy your stay at Keesler Air Force Base! So come take advantage of our programs because we feel they're outstanding!!! Just open the brochure and let the fun begin!



**FUN** USAF Youth Program Purpose Statement  
 The purpose of the U.S. Air Force Youth Services Program is to meet the social, emotional, physical, cognitive, and educational needs of youth ages 6-18, through a diversified program with emphasis on FUN!!!



## Hours of Operation

Monday-Friday 5:30 a.m.-7 p.m.  
 Friday/Saturday Nights TBA

NOTE: Hours are subject to change due to classes, sports leagues, and special programs. Closed Sundays and holidays.

Air Force/Activity Operating Instructions are available for your review at any time in the Youth Center office.

J Street, Bldg. 6801  
 Keesler AFB, MS

377-4116/2826

Find us on the web at  
[www.keeslerservices.us](http://www.keeslerservices.us)

If you suspect child abuse, safety violations or child neglect in the any facet of the Youth Center, report it to your installation Family Advocacy Program Safety Officer or call the Department of Defense Child Abuse/Safety Violation Hotline.



**REPORT  
 CHILD ABUSE  
 AND SAFETY VIOLATIONS**

Family Advocacy Office 376-3459/3457  
 Installation Safety Officer 377-2910  
 DoD Hotline 1-800-336-4592



Information is subject to change without notice. No federal endorsement of affiliates intended.

Welcome to  
 Keesler Air Force Base  
**Youth  
 Programs**



A positive place  
 for today's youth  
 ages 6-18.



# Program Highlights

This is just a partial list of the many wonderful programs we offer. Stop by or call us for more details. We look forward to serving you!

## SCHOOL AGE PROGRAMS

- **Before & After School Care** Aug-May  
Program is open to dependent children in grades K-6 of active duty and DOD civilian personnel and designed to meet the needs of youth, parents, and the mission. A variety of age appropriate activities promote individual development of each child. Our quality program is devoted to the children's health, safety, recreation, and enrichment.
- **Summer Camp** June-August  
Our program is separated into two age groups, ages 5-9 and ages 10-12, and is designed to provide a fun, safe, supervised, healthy, and age-appropriate environment for children in grades K-6. A variety of activities provide the opportunity to develop self-confidence, independence, physical and recreational skills, teamwork, and responsibility.

## FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT RECREATION

- Dances Times/age groups vary
- Skate Nights Times/age groups vary

## CLUBS

- 4-H Club
- Art Club
- Sewing Club
- "Kids in the Kitchen" Cooking Club

## INSTRUCTIONAL CLASSES

- **Baby-Sitter's Course** Ages 12 and older  
Participants receive a Baby-Sitter's Handbook and Certified Red Cross Baby-Sitter's Card.
- Piano Ages 6-12
- Martial Arts Ages 6-12
- Gymnastics Ages 3-12
- Dance Ages 3-12

## OPEN REC

Youth sign themselves in and out. Arts, FitFactor, video, tournaments, and table games offered.

## SPORTS/FITNESS

- Basketball Jan.-Feb.
- Baseball & T-Ball March-May
- FitFactor (www.afgetfit.com) All Year
- Bowling Tournament January  
High scores forwarded to AF level!
- Operation Night Hoops Summer  
AETC basketball league offers ages 13-18 the opportunity to play and improve skills and fitness while learning teamwork, cooperation and discipline in a fun, drug-free, safe environment.

## SPECIALTY CLINICS

- Archery
- Basketball
- Track & Field
- Baseball

## SPECIAL EVENTS

- Child Pride Day
- Career Expo
- Fine Arts Exhibit
- Teen/Family Talent Contest
- National Kids Day
- Photography Contest

## CAMPS

- Spring Break
  - Mardi Gras
  - Theater
  - Christmas Camp
  - Teen Camp
- NOTE: Other Air Force camps available through application and competition.

## FIND A FRIEND

Let us give you a hand finding a friend at Keesler. Through our sponsorship program, we'll match you up with someone who has similar likes and dislikes. Your new friend will also be able to answer questions about Keesler and the surrounding area to help make your move more fun.



## TEEN PROGRAMS

- **TRAIL, Keystone Club for Teens**  
A program for teens, run by teens! Learn communication, team and leadership skills. Pursuits include camping, sea kayaking, canoeing, hiking, biking, sailing and more.
- **Congressional Award**  
Set and achieve personal goals that build character and foster community service, personal development and citizenship. Six levels of awards; earn a gold, silver or bronze award or certificate.
- **Youth Employment Service Program**  
YES allows active duty dependent high school freshman to seniors to "bank" \$4 in grant funding for every hour volunteered in an on-base function for a maximum of \$1000 for four years. Students can also receive training, learn valuable work skills and have a positive impact on the base.
- **Youth of the Year**  
Outstanding award program offers youth an opportunity to represent Keesler at State and National levels.

## GIVE PARENTS A BREAK/PARENTS NIGHT OUT

- **Give Parents a Break (GPAB)** Monthly  
AF Aid funded program offers free childcare at the Child Development Center and the Youth Center for Air Force families who are referred by base helping agencies such as Airman and Family Readiness Center, Family Advocacy, as well as First Sergeants, Commanders and Chaplains. Also eligible are family members of deployed Air Force military members.
- **Parents Night Out (PNO)** Monthly  
Held in conjunction with GPAB, offers care for children ages 6 weeks to 12 years at a cost of \$3.50 per hour per child.

## More Stuff to do at Keesler

### Gaudé Lanes Bowling Center

Open bowling with bumpers. Snack bar. Birthday parties. Youth bowling league.

### Vandenberg Community Center

Karate classes for adults and youth. Game room, snack bar, pool tables and ping-pong available on specific dates and times.

### Katrina Kantina

Family dining/programs throughout the year.

### Bay Breeze Golf Course

Ages 6 and older may use the driving range and 18-hole golf course, with adult supervision. Adult and youth golf lessons offered.

### Arts & Crafts Center

A variety of craft classes for children/parents, summer craft camp, Youth Artist Craftsman and Photography Contests and annual ice cream social!

### Fitness Centers

Limited access for ages 13 and younger. Ages 14 and 15 have unrestricted use of the basketball, volleyball and racquetball courts, and may use the cardiovascular equipment and weight rooms with active supervision from a parent, legal guardian or program staff member. Ages 16 and older have unrestricted use of all fitness center facilities and equipment. Parent/child fitness room, with play area for ages 6 months to 7 years, available in Dragon Fitness Center. Tennis courts, ball fields and three outside walking/running tracks.

### McBride Library

Monthly story times for ages 3-5, summer reading program, well stocked children's library, special children's programs and events throughout the year. Information for term papers and special reports.

### Outdoor Recreation/Marina

Lighted fishing piers available 24/7. Camping, fishing and recreational equipment for rent or sale. Skiffs, pontoon boats and deep sea fishing boat for rent or charter. Annual Easter egg hunt and Christmas in the Park programs. Two outdoor swimming pools open the last week in May until September. Paintball course for use by reservation only. Disc golf.

We are officially partnered with Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

