

RECEIVED  
06102005

Dear BRAC Committee Members:

i would like to share some of the reasons I feel Cannon AFB should remain open to serve the communities of not only our surrounding area but indeed the world at large.

My spouse was sent to CAFB in 1978 and we subsequently remained in this then small community that made us welcome from Day One. I admit we had a hard time convincing our children that Clovis would be our best home yet but indeed it did. These same children went on to attend New Mexico State University and are in businesses making excellent salaries which contribute to our state and federal tax bases.

I was the Director of Nurses in 1986 at our local hospital and, because I recognized the wonderful opportunity that Clovis Community College offered the CAFB population with a registered nurse program, was instrumental in helping them expand this program, There are not many bases with such opportunities but I can tell you that we serve the eastern side of New Mexico well. We may eventually lose those nurses when they are transferred but there are always others who come and learn and then serve our communities on this side of the state.

At the same time, many of our staff at Plains Regional are base related and the absence of these staff would adversely affect our hospital as well as our overall community. My hope is that you consider these issues along with all the other concerns our community is in the process of compling for your review. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Lee Smith, RN, MSN PRMC Hospice Program