

Children & Youth Program

Fourth Pillar of the American Legion



The Children & Youth program emphasizes protecting, caring for, and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans' and military families.



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2024-2025

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Children & Youth Safety

- **Legionville Educational and Youth Safety Camp**
- **D.A.R.E Program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education which is Drug & violence education and prevention)**
- **Safety at Halloween parties**
- **Bus Safety**
- **Suicide Prevent for Youth**
- **Youth Crime Watch of America (YCWA)**
- **National Family Partnership (NFP)**



Youth Events

- **Legionville Educational and Youth Safety Camp**
- **D.A.R.E Program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education which is Drug & violence education and prevention)**
- **Harvest/Fall Events**
- **Prepare Meals at the holidays**
- **Back to school**
- **Halloween & Holiday Events – Let the older Juniors or SAL plan and organize even**
- **Suicide Prevent for Youth**
- **Clothing Drives**
- **Toys for Tots**



Recognizing & rewarding the positive actions of our Children and Youth

Youth Hero Award

- ❖ May be a Junior Auxiliary member or someone eligible for membership, but eligibility is not a criterion for consideration
- ❖ Demonstrates a physical act of valor (Heimlich, CPR, first aid, rescuing from a water or fire situation)
- ❖ Serves as an inspirational role model for the organization and the community

Good Deed Award

- ❖ May be a Junior Auxiliary member or someone eligible for membership, but eligibility is not necessary for consideration.
- ❖ Donates time and/or money for a worthy cause (such as troop support, raising money to help homeless veterans, a food drive, etc.)

American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)

This fund is specifically designed to assist minor children of eligible veterans through cash grants, which contribute to a stable home environment. These grants help families meet the cost of shelter, utilities, food and medical expenses

Legionville Educational Center and Safety Camp

Legionville is a safety educational center offering quality instruction in school safety patrol methods and areas such as swimming, canoeing, first aid.



Child Welfare Foundation (CWF)

Established in 1954, The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation was developed as a repository of funds from individuals who wished to contribute to the betterment of children in this country. Top priority is to contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth by aiding progress in the field of child welfare through research & development or by supporting programs and activities benefiting the welfare of children and youth through providing other non-profit organizations with the means to educate the public about the special needs of the children across the nation!

Child Welfare Foundation (CWF)

Not all American children grow up inside the comfortable definition of normal childhood development. For thousands, each day is a challenge marked by pain, prayer and perseverance. Many of these children require specialized care. To overcome their obstacles, they need help from all of us and The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation.

Youth Crime Watch of America

www.ycwa.org

YCWA enables youth to become resources for preventing crime, drug use, and violence in their schools and communities. Youth take ownership for their own programs in schools, neighborhoods, public housing sites, recreational centers, or parks. Youth led programs encourage crime reporting, mentoring and mediation.

National Family Partnership

www.nfp.org

The National Family Partnership shares tools, strategies, and resources to support families and communities in their effort to promote safe, drug-free youth, NEP also sponsors Red Ribbon Week. October 24-31 which inspires our children to be drug-free.

Purple Up In April

- Make your events fun with Purple in the April
- Purple up on April 15th
- Request a Proclamation from government officials to make April the Month of the Military Child and “Purple Up!” for Military Kids!
- Make the requests of state and local officials.

Easy ways to get Back To The Basics and Recognize, Respect and Remember

- Collect Ronald McDonald Pop Tabs – super easy as most drink a beverage with a tab on the can!
- Participate in the Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KDH2)
- Increase the ALA contributions to the **Child Welfare Foundation**.
- Participate in Legionville Youth Safety Camp
- Incorporate the Military Child Table Setting Ceremony into your unit, district and/or Department events/meetings!
- Include our youth in your events. Mentoring is key!

Resources

www.alaforveterans.org (you will be able to search most ALA programs for more resources at this site at the search tab)

www.legion.org/financialassistance

www.mnlegion.org/legionville

www.legion.org/childwelfare

www.facebook.com/groups/alachildrenandyouth

www.mnala.org

www.nfp.org

www.ycwa

Children & Youth Chairman of your unit, district or department

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