

Children and Youth 2014-2015

Thank you to the units who sent a midyear report. Congratulations go to Greenville Unit 39 and Washington Unit 15 for nominating a young person in their community for a Youth Hero Award.

The *Children and Youth Program* emphasizes protecting, caring for and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans' and military families. Count and report all efforts and donations that help Children and Youth. Be sure to also include efforts by individual members, such as buying Christmas presents for Salvation Army stockings or Samaritan's Purse boxes. For national Impact Reporting, be sure to note the number of military and veterans' children involved in your activities. Certificate awards will be given to units reporting the most C&Y donations and for best overall program report. Chairman's personal awards will be given to units reporting the most donations to the Legion Child Welfare Fund, the Department Children and Youth Fund, and to Operation Military Kids.

By May 1, submit written program report to C&Y chairman. Include photographs and newspaper articles. Chairman will forward reports to the national Southern Division. National ALA awards citation plaques to units for 1) Outstanding Unit Promotion of Children & Youth Activities; 2) Supporting Military Children Award; 3) Star Spangled Kids Unit Award; and 4) Million Member Award for promoting membership by work in C&Y program.

Contact a member of the Children and Youth Committee for more information and help with application forms. See the national Plan of Action for suggested activities for Children and Youth, such as:

- Youth Hero/Youth Good Deed Award (recognize a young person in your community; also possible national ALA recognition)
- Promote Star Spangled Kids
- Hold special activity in April Children and Youth month.
- Promote the ALA's *Children of Warriors National Presidents' Scholarship* in your community. Help a local senior high school student apply for one of these scholarships. (Advertising this scholarship may help you recruit new Auxiliary members.)

RESOURCES:

- www.alaforveterans.org Select Members Only tab. Scroll down to Mission Outreach Committees, Children & Youth
 - ☆ Great resources: posters, forms, how-to sheets, brochures, guidebooks
 - ☆ Read the national Plan of Action for lots of ideas for unit and individual activities
- <http://www.legion.org/youth>
 - ☆ brochures to print out for children & youth programs
- For more information and help with printed applications, contact the Children and Youth Committee.

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