

CHILDREN AND YOUTH BULLETIN 2024-2025

Genene DeMoss
Department Children and Youth Chairman
1259 38th Street, Springfield, OR 97478
genenedm@comcast.net, 541-337-8706

Year-End Reports are due to Dept. chairman no later than May 1, 2025

National Awards by June 1st, 2025. (Be sure and specify if they are Department or National entries.) If National Entries be sure and include the cover sheet.

Included In This Bulletin are the following Information:

The Children and Youth program is the Auxiliary working together with the Legion for the purpose of emphasizing, protecting, and caring for and supporting children and youth, particularly those of veterans' and military families.

Support Children and Youth is your community.

- **Youth Hero Awards/Good Deeds Awards:** This is a way the ALA can recognize youth in our communities who demonstrate good citizenship, either through a brave physical act or a good deed. Monitor local newspapers, TV and social media sites for children and youth who have performed a heroic act of physical valor, such as performing CPR, helping evacuate in the event of a fire, calling 911 for an emergency, etc. Work within your Unit to nominate them for a Youth Hero/Good Deed Award. Get in touch with your local schools, churches, and youth groups to make them aware of the Youth Hero/Good Deeds Awards. Make sure to leave Unit contact information.
- **April is the American Legion; Children and Youth Month:** April is the month of the Military Child. Wear purple on April 15th in honor of the Purple Up! for Military Kids Day. Plan a special celebration for the children and youth in your community. It can entail such things as a party with games, activities for the children to do. Provide certificates of encouragement for each child present.
- **Kids of Deployed are Heroes'2 (KDH2):** This is a program for military children who experience extended separation from their military parent or parents, whether deployed in a war zone, having a short tour or an extended temporary duty assignment. Plan a fun day such as a picnic or an ice cream social to recognize these children and give them

recognition buttons/stickers to let military kids know we appreciate their sacrifice.

- **Support Veterans and Youth:** Some of our homeless veterans also have children living on the streets with them. Contact your local churches, homeless shelters, and food pantries to identify homeless veterans' children. Ask what their specific needs are and offer your services as an ALA member.
- Contact your local voluntary services representative at the Veteran Affairs Medical Center. Offer to work with them to help meet the needs of children of homeless veterans who come to the VAMC.
- Contact local schools to assess their needs for supplies and extra clothes for homeless children in your area. Offer to supply items as needed.

NATIONAL AWARDS:

- **Youth Hero Award**
 - Award: Youth Hero Medal and Citation.
 - Presented to youth under 18 years of age who have performed heroic acts of physical valor and or good deeds in their community. Membership in the American Legion Family is not required.
 - Materials and guidelines:
 - Complete the Youth Hero and Good Deed Award Nomination form and mail to the Department Secretary, who certifies, then mails the application to National Headquarters. Also, notify your Department Children & Youth Chairman that you have submitted a candidate for this award.
- **Good Deed Award**
 - Award: Citation
 - Presented to: youth under 18 years of age who have performed specific good deeds and are a good example of community service in action. Membership in the American Legion Family is not required.
 - Materials and guidelines:
 - Complete the Youth Hero/Good Deed Nomination Form and send it to our Department Secretary, who certifies, then mails the applications to National Headquarters. Also, notify your Department Children and Youth Chairman that you have submitted a candidate for this award.
- **UNIT AWARD: Most Outstanding Unit Children & Youth Program**
 - Award: Citation Plaque
 - Presented to: One Unit in each Division.
 - Materials and guidelines:
 - Narrative not to exceed 1,000 words.
 - Include specific examples of how your Unit worked the Children and Youth program, including supporting military children.

- May include pictures, news articles, news releases, etc.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS:

Pam Seelye. PDP, Children and Youth Award.

Awarded to the Unit submitting the best narrative Children and Youth Program held in April.

- Newspaper clippings and publicity may accompany your report (not required).
- Report must include the Unit name, number, name of Unit President and the name of Unit Chairman.

Cheryl Park, PDP, Children and Youth Award.

Awarded to the Unit submitting the best narrative report for their overall Children and Youth program.

- Report must include the Unit name, number, name of Unit President and name of Unit Chair.

The Department Children and Youth Chairman and selected judges will determine the winner.

HOW TO SHEETS:

- How to conduct a “Kids of Deployed Are Heroes 2” Program.
- How to Reach Out to Military Children and Youth.

For Resources and More Information go to ALAforVeterans.org to find:

- **“I’m a Hero2” stickers template and instructions.**
- **Your National Children & Youth Committee Facebook group, search “ALA Children & Youth”.**
- **Purchase the book, *Klinger, a Story of Honor and Hope*, from TAPS with the companion horse for children who are grieving the loss of a military parent or a loved one.**

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH QUESTIONNAIRE
2024-2025**

**Genene DeMoss, Dept. Chairman
1259 38th St.**

Springfield, Oregon 97478

genenedm@comcast.net / Ph: 541-337-8706

YEAR-END REPORT DUE MAY 1, 2025

Unit Name: _____ **District #:** _____ **Unit #:** _____

Unit Chairman: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Phone Number:** _____

How did your Unit promote the Youth Hero/Good Deed Awards Programs?

What success stories do you have regarding support for military or homeless Veteran children?

Total dollars raised to benefit all children, not just military children? _____

Number of volunteer hours served for all children, not just military? _____

Number of children served? _____

Number of Children and Youth Activities? _____

Explanation of what how you accomplished these activities _____
