

Children & Youth — September 2026

What a great start to a new year!

We have already had several units assisting with back-to-school efforts at schools throughout our great state. I want to thank all of you for continuing to support children in need, our schools, and especially our Purple Star Schools.

Several of our units currently support a Purple Star School. If your unit does not, I encourage you to learn more about these schools and the important work they are doing. Purple Star Schools have teachers and staff who have gone above and beyond by completing specialized training to better support the unique needs of our active-duty military families.

You can learn more about the Arizona Purple Star School Program here:

[Arizona Purple Star School Program](#)

I know that not all of our units are located near a Purple Star School, but some of these schools may need assistance with school supplies for children who enroll after the school year has already begun. This can also be a wonderful opportunity to introduce school staff and families to some of the American Legion Auxiliary programs, scholarships, and contests available to their students, such as the **Americanism Essay Contest** and **Poppy Poster Contest**.

With the National Convention coming up and the beginning of a new Auxiliary year, now is a great time to refresh ourselves on the many programs our units support. National offers virtual pre-convention committee meetings that are a great way to learn, prepare, and connect with others.

You can sign up for the virtual pre-convention committee meetings here:

[Virtual Pre-Convention Committee Meetings](#)

I am looking forward to a wonderful year serving as your Children & Youth Chair. If your unit has an event, project, or success story that you would like me to feature in my monthly bulletin, please email me. I would love to hear about the great things you are doing for the children and families in your communities!

For God and Country, Service Not Self,

Charlotte Sullivan

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Children & Youth Chair 2026–2027