

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES

More Than A Program...It's A Promise!

NEWS LETTER



ABSOLUTELY INCREDIBLE KID DAY - MARCH 2021

We may be a little bias in the Army National Guard (ARNG) Child & Youth Services (CYS) Program, but we believe all our military youth are incredible! It just so happens this month includes a day dedicated to celebrating all the absolutely incredible kids in our lives and communities. Whether they realize it or not, youth play an important role in the world around them; their contributions and achievements are definitely worth recognizing!

This month, the ARNG CYS Program would like to recognize some of the **great things** being done by youth within our own military community.

CA – Teen Panel members started a Teen Talk initiative, where they used social media to create various 'how-to' videos for youth on a variety of topics, hobbies, and interests

D.C. – Teen Panel members set-up an outreach program during the pandemic where they called other ARNG CYS youth to ensure they felt connected and supported

KS – Teen Panel members volunteered their time to support the Topeka Veteran's Day Parade and the Kansas Children's Discovery Center

ME – Teen Panel members worked with behavioral health professionals to develop materials for other youth in the state designed to help reduce anxiety and depression related to COVID-19

MN – Teen Panel members volunteered with Feed My Starving Children to pack meals for youth and families in their state and around the world

NH – Teen Panel members partnered with the Blue Star Mothers organization to lay wreaths on every headstone at the New Hampshire Veteran's Cemetery

NC – Teen Panel members created a Deployment Battle Buddy program to provide support to youth across the state with a loved one deployed

RI – One teen used her high school senior project to create the United Kids of Armed Forces website and blog to help share her story and connect with other military kids (<https://tjadem6wixsite.com/unitedkidsblog>)

UT – Teen Panel members gathered and repurposed plastic grocery bags to create sleeping mats for a local homeless shelter

Additionally... In response to the challenges posed by COVID-19, youth in many ARNG CYS programs across the country volunteered their time throughout the year to develop, pack and ship boxes of resources and materials to other ARNG youth in their state as part of many virtual programming initiatives. These are just a few of the incredible things our ARNG Teens are doing to help those in their communities!

While Absolutely Incredible Kid Day is observed on March 18th, we invite you to recognize and celebrate all the incredible things youth in your area do all year round. Be sure to tag your local ARNG CYS Program when posting pictures on social media! Find more information about Absolutely Incredible Kid Day at: <https://campfire.org/absolutely-incredible-kid-day/>.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Announcements
- Training Ops
- Writing Challenge
- L/CYPC "Shout outs"

*Writing
Challenge!*

Look inside for details!!



PR - Summer Camp



IL - Photo Winner

Do you want to stay up-to-date with the latest info?
Be sure to [subscribe here on our website](#)



WWW.ARNGCYS.COM

#GUARDFAMILIES

#ARNGCYS

Download the
"ARNG CYS" APP



ARNG CYS STAFF RECOGNITION

2020 EXCELLENCE IN SERVICE AWARD: You will have to tune-in to find out!

15 YEAR CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS (2020):

- Kelli Hill-Dodd – LCYPC, AL
- Jennifer Kartchner – LCYPC, AZ
- Angela Ott – LCYPC, LA
- Jon 'Kelly' Barnes – LCYPC, UT
- Susan Izzo – LCYPC, WV
- Jeremy Van Wyk – PM

15 YEAR CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS (2021):

- Sylvia Lynch – LCYPC, DC
- Michelle McCarty – LCYPC, CT
- Angela Harkins – LCYPC, MI
- Alice Dean – LCYPC, NC

ARNG CYS MARKETING WORKGROUP:

- Cameron Campbell – CYPC, IA
- Chris Cox – LCYPC, IA
- Trudy Hjelseth – CYPC, ND
- Jennifer Hollidge – LCYPC, NH
- Joe Duerksen – LCYPC, VA
- Cindy Vroman-Pugh – LCYPC, WV
- Erin Berry – ERAPM
- Erica Wand – WRAPM
- Deanna Cole – NTC
- Chris Hopkins – CYPA
- Jeremy Van Wyk – PM

10 YEAR CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS (2020):

- Richard Mabry – CYPC, AZ
- Mark Richards – LCYPC, GA
- Keila Perez – LCYPC, PR
- Taryn Broomfield – LCYPC, SD
- Connie Packer – CYPC, UT
- Donna Truman – CYPC, WV

10 YEAR CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS (2021):

- Amy Baletto – LCYPC, GU
- Michelle Nieves – LCYPC, HI
- Andrew Seward – LCYPC, OH
- Holland Tulip – LCYPC, RI

ARNG CYS VIRTUAL MRT WORKGROUP:

- Lewis Keys – LCYPC, CA
- Diana Owens – LCYPC, IN
- Lucinda Smith – CYPC, NJ
- Julie Reynolds – LCYPC, OK
- Holland Tulip – LCYPC, RI
- Amanda Del Prado – LCYPC, TX
- Juan Guerra – CYPC, TX
- Joe Duerksen – LCYPC, VA
- Brian Stoudnour – LCYPC, VT

5 YEAR CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS (2020):

- Cameron Campbell – CYPC, IA
- Kimberly Worley – LCYPC, KS
- Mandy Malo – LCYPC, ND
- Mark Scherer – CYPC, OH

5 YEAR CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS (2021):

- James Garrett – CYPC, AR
- Mick Devlin – LCYPC, DE
- Amy Ent – CYPC, IL
- Keven Courtney – CYPC, KS
- Niki Puls – LCYPC, NE
- Ryan Wickes – CYPC, NV
- Kimberly Hierholzer – LCYPC, NY
- Lauren Gerhart – LCYPC, PA
- Jerome Flippins – CYPC, SC
- Brian Stoudnour – LCYPC, VT

ARNG CYS REGISTRATION SYSTEM WORKGROUP:

- Elizabeth Marcotte – LCYPC, ME
- Robbin Seeberger – LCYPC, WA

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

THANK YOU!

NOTE: LCYPC refers to Lead Child & Youth Program Coordinators and CYPC refers to Child & Youth Program Coordinators.

The strength of the ARNG CYS Program truly resides within the staff working across the fifty-four states and territories. As dedicated professionals, these individuals provide a vital connection between youth and available resources and programs at the state/territory level. This month, we recognize Leads and Coordinators who have worked within the ARNG CYS Program for 5, 10 and 15 years. These individuals, along with their colleagues, work each day to ensure the ARNG CYS Program supports the needs of our Service Members and their families. **On behalf of National Guard Bureau, DysTech and the Program Management Team, we thank you for your unwavering commitment to our military community - more specifically, to our ARNG youth and teens! Thank you!**

YOUTH

WRITING CHALLENGE



Compositions submitted by youth are reviewed by those working within the ARNG CYS Program, with some being included in future ARNG CYS Monthly Newsletters or even uploaded to the ARNG CYS Website.

If you have a youth interested in participating in the **ARNG CYS Youth Writing Challenge**, be sure to check out the ARNG CYS Website for the latest topics and information on submitting their composition.

NEW
ESSAY
PROMPT

All writing compositions for this month must be completed and submitted by **Sunday, March 21, 2021**, for consideration and review.

For all the details and how to submit your child's creative piece go to:

<https://arngcys.com/youth-writing-challenge>

"If you could be an expert on any topic in the world, what would you choose and how would you use your expertise?"



March 2021

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Check out the latest **March Activity Packet** developed by the: L/CYPCs in CT, MA, ME, NV, NH, RI, & VT!



Ask your State ARNG CYS L/CYPC for a copy.

TRAINING OPS



MCEC Parent workshops are available via webinar to support parents who are remote or not located near a major military installation. Webinars are presented live usually on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Noon EST.

**** Participants must register in advance for the live webinar presentation ****

- TUE 03/02 - Helping your Military Child Deal with Daily Stress and Frustration
- WED 03/03 - Raising a Confident Child in an Uncertain World
- TUE 03/09 - Cyberbullying
- WED 03/10 - Internet Safety
- TUE 03/16 - Applying to a Service Academy
- WED 03/17 - Financing Your Military Child's K-12 Education

March Webinars

This does not indicate an endorsement of resources, programs and/or services by National Guard Bureau, DysTech, staff or contractors.

IN THE KNOW

Follow your local CYS social media accounts to see the weekly **In the Know (ITK)** posts, OR reach out to your CYS Program for a copy. #ARNGCYSITK



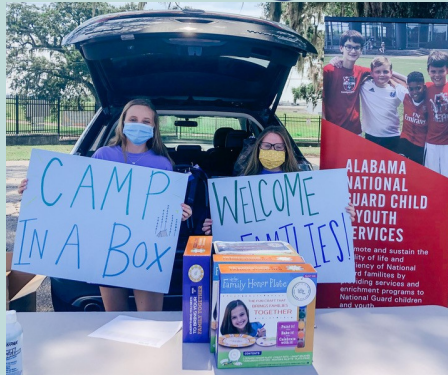
PR - Summer Camp



MN - Teen Council Service Project



SC - Virtual Camp



AL - Camp-in-a-box



VA - Virtual Camp



NC - Family Event

We'd love to hear from YOU!

Would you like to share how the CYS program has made an impact on you and your family? Let us know at:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/ShareYourCYSstory

We're an Awesome TEAM!

Connect with your local CYS team to learn how you can **VOLUNTEER!**

<https://arngcys.com/my-local-cys-program>

