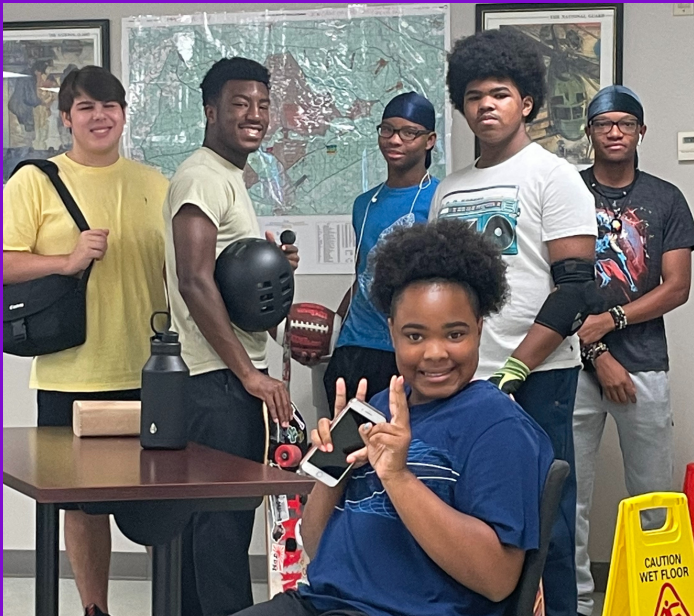


2021

GEORGIA NATIONAL GUARD STATE YOUTH PROGRAM

A N N U A L R E P O R T



"Youth Programs helped my kids develop great relationships and benefit from physical, emotional, and mental health."

- Lusenii Watson, GARNG Spouse

"As a spouse and a parent, the GA National Guard State Youth Program has been one of our saving graces. My children have learned so much and have had a blast while doing it! This youth program and the leaders have been so supportive of my children and their development, that I'll be forever grateful. I look forward to their continued growth in this program!"

- Ebony Simpson, GARNG Spouse



MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Georgia National Guard State Youth Program is to prepare our Guard Youth for success in a dynamic, ever evolving, global society. Youth programs will provide leadership responsive to the unique needs of all military youth. We are committed to assisting our Guard Youth through the facilitation of programs and services that promote emotional, social, educational, vocational and character development.



868

YOUTH AND TEENS SERVED

783 ARNG YOUTH

389 AGES 6-12

394 AGES 13-18

29 ANG YOUTH

05 AGES 6-12

24 AGES 13-18

25 ARMY ACTIVE DUTY

25 AGES 6-12

4 ARMY RESERVE

04 AGES 6-12

6 AIR RESERVE

06 AGES 6-12

21 YOUTH AGES 0-5

189 ADULTS

188 ARNG

1 ARMY RESERVE

VOLUNTEERS

Despite COVID restrictions, **110 volunteers** provided support and facilitated workshops during Yellow Ribbon events, State Youth Council meetings, robotics team meetings and competition and summer camp activities to complete a total of **600 hours** of Youth Program Support. Our volunteer pool provide specialized skills and content that enhance the programming provided to our youth.



GOALS

- **Provide** support for military youth and their families in coping with the unique challenges they face.
- **Provide** programming that builds leadership, develops resiliency and promotes healthy choices.
- **Educate** the community on the challenges and needs of military children and their families.
- **Develop** community partnerships that meet the needs of military children and their families.
- **Expand** youth programming to meet the changing needs of all youth served.

MRT PROGRAM

GA National Guard utilizes the Master Resiliency Training (**MRT**) curriculum with its State Youth Council participants and their youth leadership partners. During virtual State Youth Council meetings, **9 youth**, ages 12-18, **participated in 7 MRT's** that covered topics such as goal setting, self-regulation, mental agility, energy management and optimism.

2021 BEST PRACTICES

REGION 4 SYC LITERACY PROJECT: Our most recent efforts with youth projects has been in partnership with youth leadership from other states in our region. This year Youth from Alabama State Teen Panel and State Youth Council members from Georgia piloted a Literacy Project by starting a Book Club. This effort provided the opportunity for consistent connections with youth from our region beyond their single interaction at the Region Youth Symposiums. This project also served to promote interest in reading for our teens. Leadership teens from Mississippi, North Carolina and Kentucky will be added in the next fiscal year.



PEER MENTORSHIP: Peer mentorship continues to be one of our youth programs' best practices. This year our State Youth Council and veteran robotics' team members served as peer mentors, on a virtual platform, and worked virtually with 84 civilian youth from middle schools in California and Boston. This enabled our Youth to develop their leadership skills and educate the community on the role military dependents serve as their parents are deployed.

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Georgia National Guard
State Youth Program



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GeorgiaGuardYouth
Program.com

STATE YOUTH COUNCIL

Our 11-member State Youth Council has been working to utilize virtual platforms to effectively practice and develop leadership skills learned during youth program workshops. In addition to their mentorship of youth in STEM in Boston and California, which our SYC members conducted 6 robotics mentorship sessions with middle school youth from those states, our SYC participated in 3 sessions of a book club pilot with SYC youth in Alabama and partnered with 4-H to begin work on a movie project to address the challenges faced by youth during the pandemic which they met for 12 project sessions.



YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

- **20 National Guard Youth** ages 12-17 attended our movie camp this summer at the Oglethorpe Armory in Ellenwood. Camp participants, who were also mentored by our State Youth Council members, completed an advertisement clip that promoted resiliency.
- **5 National Guard Youth** participated in the virtual Adventist First Robotics Lego league (FLL) and won the Breakthrough Award for their efforts.
- **221 National Guard Youth** were supported in our directorates Christmas Assistance Program.
- **125 National Guard Youth** attended and participated in 1 virtual robotics camps, 1 Movie Camp, 1 Piano Camp, 1 Starbase Camp, 1 Robotics Virtual Competition, 1 MOMC Mural Project, 13 State Youth Council meetings, 5 Movie Club Meetings, 1 Christmas Birdhouse Project, 5 SYC Book Club meetings.
- **57 National Guard Youth** ages 6-17 participated in 6 National Guard Yellow Ribbon Events supported by Youth Programs



For More Information on the Georgia National Guard Youth Program Please Contact:



Mark Richards, BA, MA

Lead Child and Youth Program Coordinator
Georgia National Guard
Military Family Support Branch
Office: (678) 569-5761
Cell: (404) 308-0208
Email: Mark.d.richards17.nfg@mail.mil



Melissa Wood, BA, M.ED

Child and Youth Program Coordinator
Georgia National Guard
Military Family Support Branch
Office: (678) 569-5761
Cell: (770) 891-3605
Email: GeorgiaGuardYouthProgram@gmail.com



SPC LaBarron R. Williams

Family Programs Support Specialist
Georgia National Guard
Military Family Support Branch
Office: (678) 569-5761
Cell: (404) 599-6542
Email: SPCWilliams.FP@gmail.com

YOUTH PROGRAM PARTNERS

The Georgia National Guard State Youth Program has established and maintained effective partnerships that have contributed to the support of Military youth throughout the state of Georgia.



Peach State Starbase facilitated a virtual summer camp that provided youth participants in the 4th and 5th grade with educational classes and extension activities in the areas of science, technology, math & aeronautics.



The Eddie Lee Wilkins Association facilitated a virtual summer camp that provided youth participants with basketball, health, and wellness classes along with Q&A sessions with current and former NCAA/Professional basketball players.



Georgia FIRST Robotics provided support in the facilitation of 1 robotics camp and 2 robotics competitions that served over 50 youth participants.



The Mindful Child provided yoga and relaxation workshops for youth participants at Yellow Ribbon events, Youth Symposiums, and summer camps which supported our Health & Wellness initiatives.



Georgia 4-H has provided support for our Robotics Teams and State Youth Council Program.



Foundation for Hospital Art partner with Youth Programs to design the murals, painted by Military Dependents, to be displayed in Military facilities across the state of Georgia.



Glymph & Associates hosted a Back to School Bash virtual event as well as conducting workshops at various Yellow Ribbon events.



Focus On The People hosted two virtual music camps, including a beginners piano camp and an intermediate recording camp, while also designing music recording workshops at various Yellow Ribbon events throughout the year.