



FY21
Maryland Army National Guard
Child & Youth Program
Annual Report

MDARNG Child & Youth Program

Our Mission

The Maryland Army National Guard Child & Youth Program exists to promote and sustain the quality of life and resiliency of National Guard Families by providing secure, timely, flexible, and high quality support services and enrichment programs to Maryland National Guard Youth.

Program Goals

- To offer Child & Youth training and support for school-aged attendees at pre-deployment, during deployment, and post-deployment events
- To coordinate and conduct evidence-based, developmentally appropriate life skills and resilience building education, and youth development for school-aged dependents of MDARNG members
- To provide information, assistance, and referral and follow-up services regarding resources that support MDARNG youth
- To coordinate and provide briefings on the Child & Youth Program, CYP benefits, and CYP resources for service members, Family members and youth

2021 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- 3 Yellow Ribbon Event
- 11 Family Day Events
- 7 Teen Council Events/Meetings
- 10 Partnered Events/Meetings
- 8 Month of the Military Child Events
- 2 Week Long Virtual Summer Camp
- 1 Statewide Back to School Partnered Event
- 17 Virtual Monthly Activity Packets



MDARNG Child & Youth Program

Key Partners in Maryland

Maryland Science Center



The Child & Youth Program has worked with the Maryland Science Center for the past three years. Through them we can offer an innovative program where Youth can participate in STEM activities and experiences not found elsewhere. They also offer admission included in the program that allows the Youth access to many exhibits that can strengthen the lessons.

Spiritual Living by Che



The Child & Youth Program has worked with Spiritual Living by Che for the past year. They allowed us to offer yoga workshops for youth as well as dialogues and activities on wellness and self awareness.

Best Practices & New Initiatives

"Money Matters" & "Water Everywhere" Virtual Summer Camps



In June and July of 2021, Maryland CYP worked with the Financial Department of Soldier Support Services to create a virtual version of our annual summer camps to adapt to the pandemic. Our "Money Matters" & "Water Everywhere" virtual workshops provided a solution to getting summer programming to kids. Participants were able to learn new skills and interact with their peers to build STEM and financial success. We had 10 registered participants, including 4 participants new to the CYP Program.

Maryland Back to School Statewide Event



The Child & Youth Program supported the MD Department of Health pilot their Back to School initiative. We were able to provide school supplies for over 750 students and their families, as well as in-person workshops for kids on healthy mindsets. COVID-19 vaccines were available for ages 12+. Families across the state were able to connect directly with our program, many for the first time.

Teen Council

The Maryland Army National Guard Teen Council consists of 5 executive positions, 8 additional leadership roles, and 2 junior memberships for a total of 15 teen council members. The Teen Council's focus on community service and leadership skill-building was demonstrated in a number of ways this past year. Teen council members had the chance to volunteer in the community, where they earned service hours while building their leadership and organizational skills. We also were able to provide members a First Aid/CPR training and virtual summer camp this year. The Teen Council members have been instrumental in navigating the pandemic as a council as they supported and planned many of our virtual initiatives this year. The mentorship and guidance practiced by the Teen Council made a difference in the overall success of each CYP initiative in FY21 and it was a pleasure to watch our members grow confident as leaders in their community.

MRT Teen Resilience Program

The Child & Youth Program conducted 3 MRT trainings for our Teen Council members. Four participants were trained on Hunt the Good Stuff (#HTGS), Goal Setting, and Mind Games. Teen Council often discusses resiliency and make resilience connections during other trainings. Additionally, the Lead Child and Youth Program Coordinator, Jessica Libowitz, completed her full Master Resiliency Training at Fort McCoy in May.



"The monthly mail-out kit series were very informative and had everything the children needed for the activities. The activities were so engaging for the kids!"
-Heather Schmitt, MDARNG Spouse



"The Child and Youth program activities provided during quarantine truly kept my children interested in science and math. The Journey through Maryland series sparked an interest in travel to different state parks and locations for a safe place to travel. The best activities were the camps and opportunities for my 3 children to interact with other children and learn via zoom or virtual field trip."
-Colleen Brendlinger, MDARNG Spouse

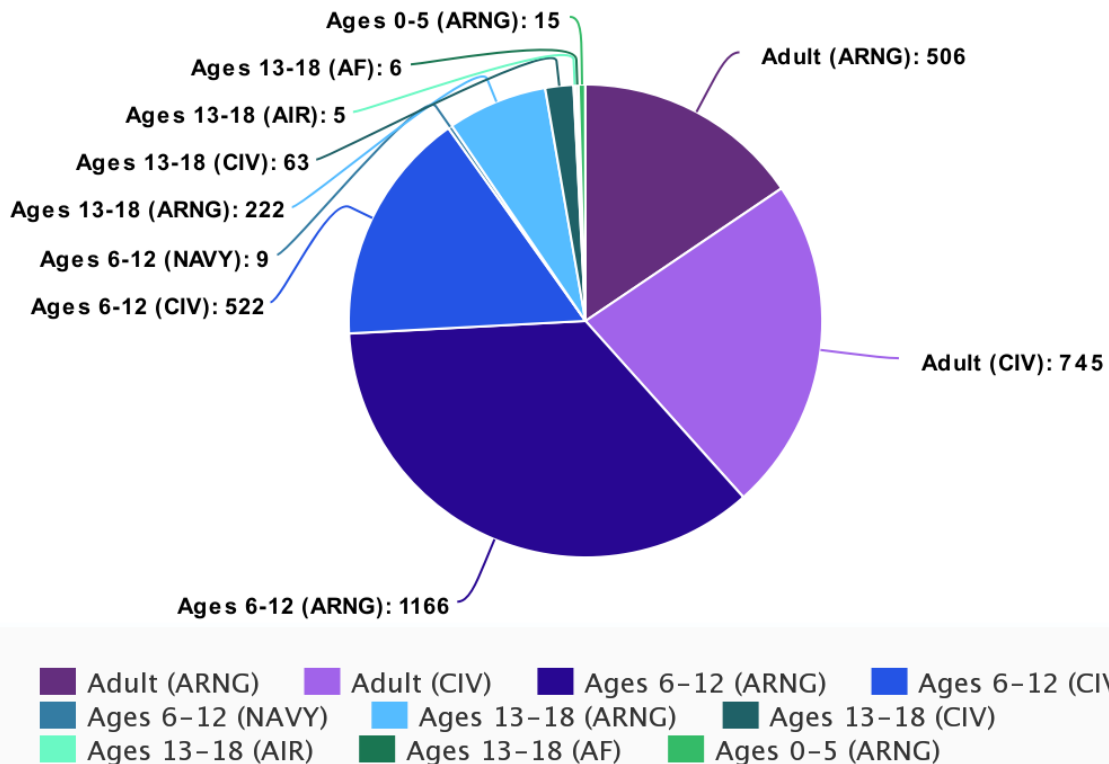


FY21 Child & Youth Programs

Total Youth & Teens Served : 2,008

Total Adults Served: 1,252

MDARNG Program & Event Participants



meta-chart.com

The Child & Youth Program had a total of 68 volunteers throughout FY21 with a total of 845 hours. Using the estimated national value of volunteer hours by Independent Sector, Maryland increased capacity for service by \$28.54 per hour for a total of approximately \$24,116.3 by utilizing volunteers. Adult and teen volunteers made it possible to hold our Fall Fest, MOMC, and Back to School initiatives this year.



In FY21, the Maryland Child and Youth Program created 38 different resources and referrals for families. We did this by partnering with 48 different community partners to put on 280 virtual and in-person events this year. Our team spent a total of 243.5 programming hours on these resources, events, and programming.

Our Team

Jessica Libowitz



Lead Child & Youth Program
Coordinator Maryland Army
National Guard
Dynamic Systems
Technology Contractor
Baltimore
Office (410) 576-2995
Cell (443) 540-4732
jessica.libowitz.ctr@mail.mil

Danielle Williams

Child & Youth Program
Coordinator
Maryland Army National
Guard
Dynamic Systems Technology
Contractor Towson Office
(301) 733-4732 Cell (443) 540-
1497
danielle.williams.ctr@mail.mil



<https://www.facebook.com/mdngcyp>
<https://www.instagram.com/mdng.cyp>