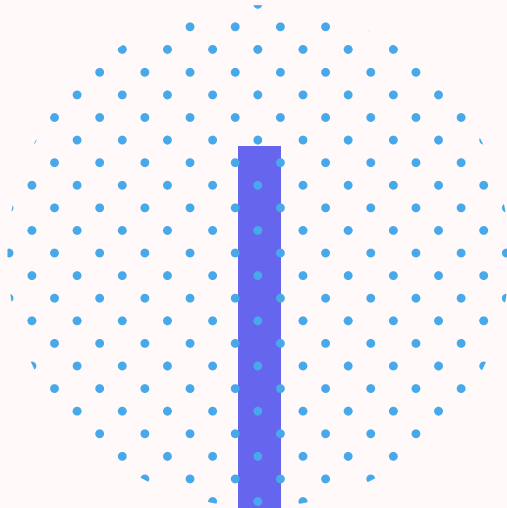




NEW JERSEY ARMY NATIONAL GUARD CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT
FY21



THE MISSION

Our mission is to provide youth ages 5-18 with various opportunities to develop their physical, social, emotional and cognitive abilities and to experience achievement, leadership, friendship and recognition. The New Jersey National Guard Child & Youth Program is here to help provide the support and resources youth and their families need to deal with the separation from a deployed parent/guardian, child care issues, difficulties with school and many other concerns.

THE GOAL

Children of all ages can be affected by military life at any phase or stage. Our goal is to ensure military children, youth, and teens have the necessary tools, support, and resources to promote stability, resiliency and a sense of community throughout New Jersey.

| BRANCH OF SERVICE | ADULTS | YOUTH 6-12 | YOUTH 13-18 |
|---------------------|--------|------------|-------------|
| ARMY NATIONAL GUARD | 1204 | 198 | 62 |
| AIR NATIONAL GUARD | 19 | 24 | 5 |
| ARMY | 17 | 18 | 13 |
| AIR FORCE | 4 | 4 | - |
| NAVY | 2 | 8 | - |
| MARINE | - | 1 | - |
| COAST GUARD | 3 | - | 1 |
| OTHER | 106 | 12 | 7 |

"College and Financial Aid seminars were particularly helpful in the guidance necessary to build confidence in my child applying to college and securing resources to fund school." - Soldier Parent
Youth Parent



TOTAL YOUTH SERVED

353

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Per usual, our volunteers showed up in ways unimaginable! During a nationwide pandemic, we were able to have 13 volunteers dedicate over 10 hours to assist in the execution of our Back 2 School Bash, Trunk or Treat, Day Camps, and Family Appreciation Events.

2021 EVENT SUMMARY

6 CPR, First Aid & AED Certification Trainings

5 Yellow Ribbon Briefings

4 Community Partner Events

2 Family Appreciation Events

2 Virtual Camps

2 Community Outreach Events

1 MOMC Event

1 TAG & NJ Leadership Briefing



GUARD TEEN PANEL

The NJ Guard Teen Panel is a joint program representing both the Army and Air National Guard Youth. The Panel is composed of teens ages 12-18. Our 6 GTP members meet monthly to discuss issues military youth are facing as well as assist in planning, organizing, and developing future programs, trainings, and events.

This year our panel members were very active and present when it came down to curating some programming ideas to benefit other military youth in New Jersey. Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, our teens were unable to execute their planned service project but are currently working to implement their program in 2022 .

TEEN RESILIENCY

Teen Resilience Training equips teens with skills that assist in adapting to life's challenges such as deployment and school stressors, as well as encouraging them to set goals, manage stress effectively, communicate clearly, and become more self aware.

We hosted a Virtual Resilience Workshop where 5 teens were introduced to the 'Detecting Icebergs' and 'Hunt the Good Stuff' Resilience Modules. During this workshop, our teens learned what these modules were, how these modules can assist with personal growth, and how to put them into action.

CAMP IN A BOX

A best practice we utilized this year was 'Camp In A Box'. The theme this year was "Adventure." Our campers were able to "explore" the different elements of Space, the Jungle, Safari and more. Each element came with a STEM, arts & crafts, and a cooking activity. Campers also followed the Daily PT schedule. It was an enjoyable experience for our campers as well as the parents! We loved seeing their creativity flow and watching them interact with each other virtually throughout the week. Our very own GTP Secretary Jada Washington designed our camp shirt!



VIRTUAL CPR & FIRST AID TRAINING

Another best practice we utilized was Virtual CPR, First Aid and AED Training. Due to Covid-19, we could not host our annual in-person volunteer CPR, First Aid, and AED Training Certification Course. Our Partner, The Beating Heart Center, had the capability to run the course online. It was self paced, very easy to navigate, and safe. Throughout FY21, we were able to get 51 of our volunteers and service members CPR, First Aid and AED Certified.

"I just finished the assessment and am certified as a first aid provider. Thank you so much for this opportunity. It has had a positive effect on my personal and work life in many ways!"-
Laurie Bowden, NJNG Army Youth Parent



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Art & Soul - The Studio is a family-owned paint studio in Mercer County, NJ dedicated to bringing out the artist in everyone. Art & Soul created a DIY T-shirt project for Month of the Military Child for 100 military kids. Our youth loved the experience to create their own shirts.



United Through Reading and US Family Health Plan provided resources and activities at our Back 2 School Bash as well as our Fall Festival. We appreciate their constant support!



Military OneSource and the Personal Finance Counselor here in NJ collaborated with us to provide a webinar series entitled 'Making Dough'. Together, they were able to provide plenty resources to our military families in regards to money management and all things finance.



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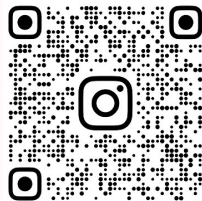
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