

# THE WHOLE CHILD

The American Legion's Children & Youth Programs

2025





**FOR GOD AND COUNTRY  
WE ASSOCIATE OURSELVES TOGETHER**

**FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:**

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;

To maintain law and order;

To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;

To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in all wars;

To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community,  
state and nation;

To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;

To make right the master of might;

To promote peace and goodwill on earth;

To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice,  
freedom and democracy;

To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to  
mutual helpfulness.



## Origins of the Whole Child Concept

The American Legion's commitment to children in need spans to the organization's earliest years. At that time, war orphans lacked stable parenting, support, food and shelter. Teens often dropped out of school and left home – if they had much of a home at all – and found trouble.

The welfare of children rose as a priority in the Legion “by sheer natural law,” one author wrote.

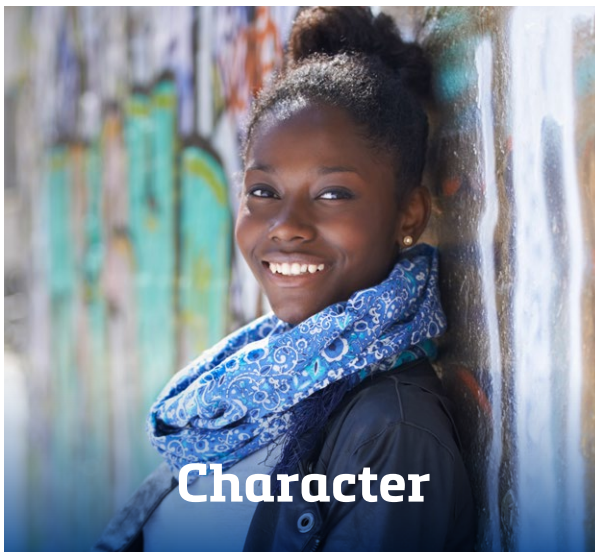
Emma Puschner, a former St. Louis lawyer and social worker, was chief architect of the Legion's platform – and soon-to-be pillar – of support for at-risk children. During her 25-year career as an American Legion director, she became a national figure in the development of local, state and federal programs, such as Aid to Families with Dependent Children, along with others that aimed to curb juvenile delinquency, help kids with disabilities and those who faced turmoil at home.

Foremost, her nationally recognized work to help all children in need was seeded and nurtured through The American Legion.



Emma Puschner served as director of the National Child Welfare Division for 25 years, beginning in August 1926.

# The American Legion's "Whole Child Plan" is guided by four key goals for all kids



These principles continue to guide The American Legion's Children & Youth Committee, which works to improve the lives of young people who need assistance most, no matter their conditions or circumstances.

**28,015**

American Legion School Award medals presented in 2024 to students graduating from elementary school, junior high, high school or college. The national medals, first introduced in 1926, are presented annually to students who exemplify six qualities that define character: courage, honor, leadership, patriotism, scholarship and service.

**1,401**

Number of Vets in the Classroom activities conducted by American Legion posts (2024)





# Today's Children & Youth Program


The spirit behind the "Whole Child Plan" is well reflected today by the American Legion's Children & Youth Committee of the national Americanism Commission.

The committee's purpose is distilled into American Legion plans, programs and activities designed to:

- Assure care and protection for children of veterans
- Improve conditions for all children and youth with due concern for maintaining the integrity of the family home
- Prevent social and physical ills of children and youth where possible, using services of, and cooperating with, sound organizations and agencies for children and youth
- Maintain a balanced program that provides for the physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs of children

**\$5,210,706.17**

Amount that local American Legion posts provided in cash aid to benefit children in need in their communities (2024)



**8,701**

Local American Legion child health and safety programs conducted by posts (2023-24)

**\$1,339,352.52**

Amount local posts donated to support child-service charities in addition to those provided by The American Legion (2024)



Photo by Hilary Ott

## Community, State and Nation

*“To see both young children and grown children healthy and growing is proof that what we do works, and what we do matters.”*

Anthony Wayne Post 174, Wayne, N.J., Commander Michael Smith after his post and another, in Belleville, N.J., joined forces to raise nearly \$7,000 in April 2024 for the Children’s Organ Transplant Association

### The American Legion Children & Youth Committee fulfills its pillar purpose of the organization at every level.

Nationally, The American Legion’s dedication to improving the lives of children and youth in need takes many forms, including:

- **Temporary Financial Assistance** grants for military and qualified veteran families with minor children who have been hit with financial hardships that jeopardize the stability of their homes
- **The American Legion Child Well-being Foundation**, which disburses grants to non-profit organizations and other entities that work to help children confronting challenges beyond their control
- **Policy positions** for legislative testimony and advocacy on matters of child safety, education, substance abuse and family stability

At the **state level**, American Legion programs and services vary but include:

- Involvement and support for Special Olympics

- Fundraising and assistance for children with special needs, such as those from low-income families who require hearing aids, prosthetic limbs or have other needs
- Immunization promotion
- Fulfillment of holiday programs for children
- Assistance and support for agencies that help children who have disabilities, lack parents or otherwise need help

**Locally**, American Legion Children & Youth programs are adapted to meet the needs of their unique communities, from financial support for grief-counseling camps to the provision of school supplies for low-income families and awareness building of threats to healthy upbringings. Every community has different needs, so support varies, but some examples include:

- Holiday events
- Family Fun Days
- Warm winter clothes for kids in need
- After-school programs
- Summer activities
- Lunches and meals

*“They may never have had a bike. It’s a great opportunity to give to those less fortunate.”*

Alpharetta, Ga., American Legion Post 201 Financial Assistant DiAna Casale, on her post’s alliance with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve’s Toys for Tots program, which delivered approximately 100 bicycles and numerous toys to children of low-income families during the 2024 holiday season

**\$4,339,065.12**

Value of American Legion goods given to children in their communities (2023-24)

**146,005,747.5**

Volunteer hours logged by American Legion posts in support of programs for children and youth in their communities (2024)

**561**

American Legion posts that conducted National Family Week events and activities (2023-24)





## Temporary Financial Assistance

The American Legion's Temporary Financial Assistance program took flight during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm when active-duty personnel were suddenly deployed without much notice, leaving spouses with minor children at home.

American Legion national support for families with children at home, however, began long before that, in the mid-1920s when The American Legion Endowment Fund was established.

For military families with children, pay can be sporadic and the challenge of holding a family together is often complicated. Costs increase when only one parent is available to help at home. In 2019, junior enlisted personnel of the U.S. Coast Guard had their pay delayed more than 30 days during a government shutdown. Those with children at home received **more than \$1.2 million in American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants** to get them through the hardship.

Temporary Financial Assistance grants are routed through American Legion posts and state, territorial or foreign departments before they are approved at the national level. Dozens of TFA grants are also often handled entirely at the local level.

**The American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance program ensures that qualified military and veteran families with minor children at home can pay for food, shelter, clothing or other necessities when sudden, unexpected financial hardships strike. The national program has distributed up to \$1.2 million annually in one-time cash grants of up to \$1,500 each.**





DVIDS

***“It’s hard to imagine how many lives are being touched. Not just military life – but the family unit as a whole.”***

**Veteran and American Legion member Ken Lee of Oroville, Wash.,** who received a TFA grant that helped him and his family through an injury-caused hardship that left them living in RV parks

**916**

Families aided by local American Legion post Temporary Financial Assistance grants (2024)

**11,161**

Number of children whose homes were stabilized between 2013 and 2023 with help from American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants.



**\$5,430,738**

Amount in national **American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance** grants awarded over the last decade to military and qualified veteran families with minor children at home who are confronted with unexpected financial emergencies.





## American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation

The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation (ALVCF) feeds and houses children of military personnel and veterans facing urgent, unexpected hardships. It prevents eviction, keeps the power on and fulfills basic needs to hold a family together through difficult times.

That's because the ALVCF is the only funding source for The American Legion's national Temporary Financial Assistance program, which has provided **more than \$18 million in cash grants** to struggling families since its inception. The foundation relies entirely on charitable donations from individuals, like-minded associations and corporate allies.

Since its inception in 1925 as the American Legion Endowment Fund, the foundation has assisted millions of veterans, their families and children in need. In 2019, the American Legion Endowment Fund began doing business as **the American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation** to more clearly state who benefits from tax-deductible donations to the separate non-profit 501c3 element of the nation's largest veterans organization.

***“What you’re riding for now ... you’re changing lives and saving lives. Raising funds for the Veterans & Children Foundation is going to have more of an impact on that than anything you possibly could do.”***

American Legion Department of Missouri Senior Vice Commander **Jerome Goolsby**, at the beginning of the 2024 Legacy Run, led by American Legion Riders, that generated \$930,000 to help children in need and veterans seeking help obtaining their benefits



# 2,101

Local posts nationwide that in 2024 raised funds for The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation, which pays for the national Temporary Financial Assistance program and for the training of accredited service officers.

Scan the QR code to donate to ALVCF today





# American Legion Child Well-being Foundation

Established in 1954 as The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation – renamed The American Legion Child Well-being Foundation in 2024 – assists organizations and agencies that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual welfare of children and youth. Foundation funds are distributed primarily to pay for research, studies, surveys, projects and outreach, or by directly supporting programs and activities that benefit the welfare of children and youth.

### CWF Through the Years

Year	Grants awarded	Funds disbursed
1955	3	\$12,500
1960	2	\$4,500
1965	6	\$38,000
1970	4	\$32,500
1975	4	\$38,113
1980	8	\$106,041
1985	14	\$228,550
1990	10	\$296,100
1996*	12	\$280,050
2000	14	\$312,900
2005	19	\$585,275
2010	19	\$636,670
2015	17	\$566,591
2020	23	\$697,282
2023	17	\$797,251
2024	4	\$684,050
2025	13	\$852,593

*\*No CWF grants were awarded in 1995, a transition year for the foundation.*

## \$21 million+ for kids

The American Legion Child Well-being Foundation awarded grants amounting to **\$852,593** for 2025. The grants of 2024 pushed the CWF’s total awards to **\$21,536,485.50** since the program’s inception.

## Some recent recipients

**American Kidney Fund of Rockville, Md.**, was awarded \$25,000 for “American Kidney Fund Virtual Camp: National Camp for Pediatric Kidney Patients.” This grant will fund themed virtual camps for youth suffering from kidney disease. The camps provide an environment for youth to interact with others who suffer from kidney diseases, thereby reducing the isolation and loneliness felt.

**ASXL Rare Research Endowment Foundation of Portland, Maine**, was awarded \$10,550 for “Care Management Educational Materials.” This grant will produce educational materials that empower parent caregivers to advocate for the best care for their children suffering from the ASXL-related disorders.

**Briggs & Barrett Project of Norfolk, Neb.**, was awarded \$15,000 for “Every Baby Initiative.” This grant seeks to provide families with newborns and an Owlet sock that monitors breathing and heart rate when sleeping to help reduce sudden infant death (SIDs).

**Camp Corral of Raleigh, N.C.**, was awarded \$25,000 for “Camp Corral-summer Camp for Children of Military Heroes-2025.” This project will allow children of wounded, ill and fallen military heroes to attend camp where they can connect with their peers, foster new connections and learn new skills.

**Children’s Hospital & Medical Center Foundation of Omaha, Neb.**, was awarded \$20,000 for “Children’s Nebraska’s Child Passenger Safety Program.” This grant will provide car seats to families in need, ensuring child safety and educating parents about car seat safety.

**Cleveland County ALWS Baseball, Inc. of Shelby, N.C.**, was awarded \$125,000 for the 2025 American Legion World Series. This grant will help provide youth-centric activities during the week-long event.

**Father Flanagan’s Boys’ Home of Boys Town, Neb.**, was awarded \$25,000 for “Boys Town National Hotline.” This grant will raise youth awareness of the mental health services provided by the Boys Town National Hotline.


**Gift of Adoption of Northbrook, Ill.**, was awarded \$20,919 for “Adoption Assistance for U.S. Born Children.” This project will fund the final needs to complete the adoption of vulnerable children in the United States, giving them permanent families and the chance to thrive.

**LifeCamp USA of Delafield, Wis.**, was awarded \$25,358 for “LifeCamp USA 2025.” This grant will cover the cost of camp for those children who have lost a parent in the line of duty, military, police, fire and first responder.

**Southeast Missouri Network Against Sexual Violence of Jackson, Mo.**, was awarded \$5,000 for “The Green Bear Project.” This project will cover the printing costs for sexual abuse prevention education for elementary-aged youth.

**Spectrum Sailing of Mt. Pleasant, S.C.**, was awarded \$3,500 for “Spectrum Sailing National Autism Sailing Camp.” This grant will provide camp opportunities for autistic youth to help foster social development, confidence and teamwork.

**The National Children’s Cancer Society of Belleville, Ill.**, was awarded \$27,266 for “Journey of Hope: The Transportation Assistance Fund.” This project will create promotional materials for the Transportation Assistance Fund, ensuring children with cancer have access to life-saving treatment. The American Legion Auxiliary and the Sons of The American Legion support this grant.



***“The greatest impact is seeing that kidney disease does not define who these children are. It increases their confidence and their self-esteem while decreasing their feelings of isolation and loneliness. But more than anything, it also gives them the opportunity to form friendships with other children who have a shared experience.”***

**Daniell Griffin**, senior director of Individual Giving for the American Kidney Fund, whose organization received a \$25,000 American Legion Child Well-being Foundation grant in 2025

# Policies and Advocacy

The American Legion Committee on Children & Youth establishes and upholds the organization’s positions, policies and legislative directions on issues related to:

- Family stability
- Child safety
- Healthy lifestyles
- Mental health
- Education

## Children & Youth Resolutions

The American Legion continuously maintains a portfolio of national resolutions related to the welfare of children and commendations of organizations that align with the organization’s values.

**As of 2024, those resolutions included:**



**FINANCIALLY ASSIST FAMILIES FACED BY CATASTROPHIC ILLNESS OF THEIR CHILDREN,** urging the federal government to expand the present federal Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant programs to include catastrophic illness, and state governments are urged to enact legislation to financially assist individual families faced by the catastrophic illness of their children. (Resolution 278/2016 National Convention)

**FUNDING FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING PREVENTION PROGRAMS,** urging the President and Congress to appropriate funds that meet or exceed current funding levels for state, federal, and military drug trafficking prevention programs. (Resolution 112/2018 National Convention)

**LOCATE MISSING CHILDREN AND PREVENT CHILD VICTIMIZATION,** supporting appropriate legislation aimed at locating missing children and preventing child victimization and urging Congress to appropriate funds that meet or exceed current levels for the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children; also that The American Legion be authorized to collaborate with national and state missing and exploited children agencies and organizations as determined by the national Americanism Commission at all levels, in locating missing children and preventing child exploitation; and encouraging departments and posts to actively increase public awareness of child victimization and its detrimental effects. (Resolution 113/2018 National Convention)



**NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM,** urging Congress to appropriate funds at or exceeding current funding levels for the National School Lunch Program. (Resolution 285/2016 National Convention)

**OPPOSE ANY ATTEMPT TO WEAKEN PRESENT LAWS GOVERNING PENALTIES FOR THE PRODUCTION, SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF PORNOGRAPHIC OR OBSCENE MATERIALS TO MINORS.** (Resolution 282/2016 National Convention)

**PREVENT CHILD MALTREATMENT**, supporting appropriate legislation aimed at preventing child maltreatment; authorization to collaborate with national and state child maltreatment prevention organizations as determined by the national Americanism Commission; urging departments and posts to cooperate in all ways possible with organizations and agencies that advocate for child maltreatment prevention and promoting increased public awareness of child maltreatment and its detrimental effects; and urging all educators, coaches, school administrators and others responsible for children in any capacity to familiarize themselves with the warning signs of child maltreatment and report any suspected maltreatment to the proper authorities, ensuring that these children are referred to the appropriate child protective service; and continuing public education continues through The American Legion's Children & Youth program with respect to reporting suspected cases of child maltreatment. (Resolution 286/2016 National Convention)



**PREVENTION OF CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION**, supporting appropriate legislation aimed at the prevention, investigation and prosecution of child sexual exploitation; American Legion collaboration with with national and state agencies and organizations involved in the prevention of child sexual exploitation, as determined by the national Americanism Commission; and encouraging departments and posts to raise community awareness about the prevalence of sexual exploitation of children and encourage cooperation with law-enforcement agencies, government entities and public/private organizations that seek to empower the public to take immediate and direct action to enforce a zero-tolerance policy. (Resolution 281/2016 National Convention)

**PROGRAMS AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT PROMOTE CHILD SAFETY** supporting appropriate legislation aimed at preventing or reducing unintentional injury among children and adolescents, urging departments and posts to actively raise public awareness on organized safety commissions and to actively promote child safety at the state and local levels. (Resolution 287/2016 National Convention)



**REDUCING OR PREVENTING TEENAGE PREGNANCY** supporting appropriate legislation aimed at reducing or preventing teen pregnancy and authorization to collaborate with national and state teen-pregnancy prevention organizations as determined by the national Americanism Commission; and encouraging departments and posts to actively raise public awareness about organizations and agencies that seek to educate teenagers on the advantages of delaying pregnancy. (Resolution 288/2016 National Convention)

**SUPPORT FOR OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.** (Resolution 114/2018 National Convention)



**SUPPORT FUNDING COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH CARE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAMS**, affirming support for programs as outlined by the Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant contained under Title V of the Social Security Act 62 and urging Congress to appropriate funds that meet or exceed current funding levels to include all programs related to the Comprehensive Health Care for Children and Youth. (Resolution 279/2016 National Convention)

**ALCOHOL AND YOUTH** urging all departments and posts to assist in alerting, informing, and educating parents, teachers and other school authorities in their communities of the tragic results of alcohol abuse by youngsters; and encouraging departments and posts to cooperate with other organizations and agencies concerned with this problem by discussing, formulating and disseminating facts about alcohol and the threat it poses to tomorrow's leaders. (Resolution 45/National Executive Committee, May 2000)

**CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION PARTICIPATION WITH THE COMBINED FEDERAL CAMPAIGN** authorizing The American Legion and the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation to work together to secure qualification of the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation in the Combined Federal Campaign. (Resolution 31/National Executive Committee, October 1994)

**SUPPORT EFFORTS AIMED AT IMPROVING CHILD CARE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN** authorizing The American Legion to collaborate with the leading national child-care organizations as determined by the national Committee on Children and Youth; and encouraging departments and posts to cooperate with state and community public or private agencies with day care responsibilities to the end that licensed child care facilities will be available to all children in our nation; and departments and posts are urged to continue to encourage the adoption and implementation of safe and consistent licensing standards for childcare in facilities throughout this nation; and departments and posts are encouraged to assist in raising the level of understanding among the general public about the needs of adequate child care, and urged to commit the resources to achieve a level of quality necessary for children to grow in a healthy and safe environment. (Resolution 255/National Convention, 2012)



**COMMENDING CHILDREN'S ORGAN TRANSPLANT ASSOCIATION** for its humanitarian efforts on behalf of children in need of organ and bone marrow transplants. (Resolution 23/National Executive Committee, May 2014)

**COMMENDING COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA)** programs and their mission to help and represent at-risk children. (Resolution 29/National Executive Committee, May 2014)

**COMMENDING MERCY MEDICAL ANGELS** for its humanitarian efforts to provide children and families needed charitable transportation to distant treatment locations across the United States. (Resolution 14/National Executive Committee, May 2015)

**COMMENDING RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES POP TAB COLLECTION PROGRAM** that helps provide a home-like environment for financially challenged families with seriously ill or injured children who must undergo medical treatment at a children's hospital. (Resolution 28/National Executive Committee, May 2014)



**COMMENDING SPECIAL OLYMPICS** for its efforts to enhance the lives of millions of intellectually disabled children by providing year-round sports training and athletic competition in the United States and around the world. (Resolution 27/National Executive Committee, May 2014)

**COMMENDING JAYC FOUNDATION** for its mission to improve the lives of children and to strengthen families. (Resolution 25/National Executive Committee, May 2014)

**ESTABLISH CHILDREN & YOUTH POST AND DEPARTMENT CERTIFICATE AWARDS**

formally reinstating National Commission on Children & Youth certificate awards that recognize posts, districts and departments conducting outstanding Children & Youth programs and that the National Committee on Children & Youth continue to issue and send them. (Resolution 61/National Executive Committee, October 2012)



**FIREWORKS SAFETY** urging all departments and posts to assist in alerting, informing and educating parents, children, community leaders and others about the dangers of fireworks; and encouraging children and families to enjoy fireworks at public fireworks displays conducted by professionals, rather than purchase fireworks for home or private use. (Resolution 33/National Executive Committee, May 2006)

**SUPPORT EFFORTS TO REDUCE DRUG ABUSE** continuing efforts to reduce drug abuse, as it affects our nation's young people; and affirming support for the Office of National Drug Control Policy ... encouraging families and institutions, including employers, law-enforcement agencies, faith-based and community-based organizations, and health-care providers to help drug abusers recognize their addictions and urge them to seek appropriate treatment; and attacking the problem of drug abuse as a whole, which includes international relations, law enforcement, education, judicial reform, research, treatment and rehabilitation, to ensure that our nation's children grow up as healthy and productive members of society. (Resolution 282/National Convention, 2010)



**SUPPORT THE RIGHTS OF ALL PEOPLE WITH INTELLECTUAL DISABILITIES** recognizing and supporting the rights of all people with intellectual disabilities to enjoy a quality of life that promotes independence, self-determination and participation as productive members of society; and supporting the goals of the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities:

- Full citizenship rights of people with intellectual disabilities
- Provision of all necessary supports to individuals and families
- Reduction of the occurrence and severity of intellectual disabilities
- Promotion of the widest dissemination of information of models, programs and services within the field of intellectual disabilities

The American Legion also supports and encourages early diagnosis, intervention and treatment, increased professional staffing, expanded educational opportunities, family counseling, improved and new living facilities and adequate social and vocational services for the intellectually disabled. (Resolution 294/National Convention, 2010)

**PROTECT CHILDREN FROM UNRESTRICTED MEDIA** promoting efforts to restrict excessive use of violence, vulgarity and other forms of moral depravity in movies, TV programs, TV news and the Internet; encouraging departments and posts to conduct awareness campaigns to educate their members, their families and the general public about the potential dangers the Internet and other forms of electronic media pose to children and teenagers; and authorizing the Americanism Commission to disseminate educational materials, when feasible, to inform department and post leadership about the potential dangers inherent in the media and Internet, in an effort to return the country to the God-given principles of life, liberty and the true pursuit of happiness. (Resolution 11/National Convention, 2014)





**SUPPORT EFFORTS TO IMMUNIZE ALL CHILDREN** reaffirming support for the fullest use of any licensed vaccine to immunize children; urging departments and posts to actively raise awareness about local treatment and immunization programs so that children in every community may achieve the fullest protection against communicable diseases. (Resolution 10/National Convention, 2014)

**VIOLENCE AND VANDALISM IN THE SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES** recommending that school boards and national and state education agencies, in conjunction with parents and community members, develop and implement programs that create effective violence-prevention strategies for local schools, to include consistent, fair and responsible “zero tolerance” policies; urging local law enforcement to implement effective programs combating juvenile delinquency in coordination with the Department of Education, community and other agencies within the criminal justice system; and urging posts to assist those in the educational community and criminal justice system to work closely with communities and families to reduce juvenile delinquency in schools and our communities. (Resolution 62/National Executive Committee, October 2012)

**YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION EDUCATION** urging departments and posts to cooperate in all ways possible to promote and increase public awareness of the warning signs of youth suicide; urging all educators, coaches, school administrators and others responsible for children in any capacity, to familiarize themselves with the warning signs of youth suicide; and encouraging all schools to incorporate youth suicide prevention programs into their regular school curricula, and provide youth suicide training for faculty and staff; and seeking state legislation to mandate youth suicide prevention education programs in each state which does not already address the problem. (Resolution 58/National Executive Committee, May 2003)

**APRIL: OFFICIAL CHILDREN & YOUTH MONTH:**

**NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
OF THE AMERICAN LEGION  
May 8-9, 2019  
Indianapolis, Indiana**

**Resolution No. 26:** April As Official Children & Youth Month

**Origin:** Committee on Children & Youth Submitted by: Americanism Commission

WHEREAS, The 22nd National Convention of The American Legion assembled in Milwaukee, Wis., Sept. 15-18, 1941, adopted Resolution No. 537, “April as Official Child Welfare Month”; and

WHEREAS, The Americanism Commission, at the suggestion of the Committee on Children & Youth, wishes to reflect current terminology; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED, By the National Executive Committee of The American Legion in regular meeting assembled in Indianapolis, Indiana, on May 8-9, 2019, That The American Legion set aside and officially designate the month of April of each year as American Legion Children & Youth Month; and, be it finally**

**RESOLVED, That Resolution No. 537 of the 22nd National Convention, Sept. 15-18, 1941, “April as Official Child Welfare Month” is hereby superseded and rescinded.**

# American Legion Children & Youth resources

Resources are available for anyone who would like to learn more about The American Legion Children & Youth Program, from downloadable brochures to videos on YouTube.

On [legion.org/publications](https://www.legion.org/publications)

In the Children & Youth category, among the printable/downloadable materials are:

## April is Children & Youth Month

Local posts and American Legion members are encouraged to download or print this brochure that offers suggestions about how to celebrate April: Children & Youth Month in The American Legion, including support for community programs, legislative initiatives, promotion and reporting of activities.

<https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/204ACY0722%20April%20is%20Children%20and%20Youth%20Month.pdf>

## American Legion Child Well-being Foundation

This downloadable/printable brochure describes the profound impact CWF grants have had on organizations that work every day to improve the lives of children in need of support.

<https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/105ACY0122%20Child%20Welfare%20Foundation%20Brochure.pdf>

## National Family Week

The American Legion has long promoted the importance of strong families as cornerstones of communities, states and the nation. National Family Week in November each year offers an opportunity for American Legion Families to activate around that concept, and this brochure suggests ways to do that.

<https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/106ACY0722%20National%20Family%20Week.pdf>

## American Legion Child Well-being Foundation Annual Awards

This brochure provides information about individual national, state and local awards for fundraising and charitable contributions to the CWF, which relies solely on donations to issue grants to deserving organizations and programs that help children facing challenges.

<https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/174ACY0523%20CWF%20Awards%20Brochure.pdf>

## Children & Youth Department Chairman Program Guide

This guide provides details about how American Legion Children & Youth Committee leaders at the department level can advance programs and services for young people.

<https://www.legion.org/sites/legion.org/files/legion/publications/273ACY0122%20Children%20and%20Youth%20Chairmans%20Guide.pdf>

## Video: A Square Deal for Every Child

Episode 7 of The American Legion's "To Strengthen a Nation" documentary video series explores the rich history of the organization's commitment to children in need of support.

[https://www.legion.org/legiontv/PLHMR9MmnivfNhSkkWYIBiLM7rNFq8sehZ/xdCD0Y\\_IAi8](https://www.legion.org/legiontv/PLHMR9MmnivfNhSkkWYIBiLM7rNFq8sehZ/xdCD0Y_IAi8)





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