

Children & Youth August 2024

Welcome to the Children & Youth program! This year let's explore ways that we can become the community "go to" for activities and growth opportunities that make an impact for all our children, but especially our military kids. Create a day and time to meet with teachers and unit members to see what is possible by working together. What is the one thing that you do that touches the children of your community and makes a difference?

What can you do?

Encourage school supply drives – I recommend that donations be delivered in August and in January. Inquire at the local schools as to their specific needs.

Build relationships with your local schools – focus on "Give 10 to Education", American Education Week, and Teacher Appreciation Week, maybe bring extra goodies for the support staff, as well as the teachers.

Plan and implement activities that work with the community and the schools – example: promote September Music Month with the music teacher and lead patriotic songs with the children. September 17th is Constitution Day, hand out pocket constitutions.

Discover who the active military kids are and introduce them to "Purple Up" on April 15th to support military kids. I recommend purchasing Purple Up shirts for those kids.

Schedule around Veteran Day to have veterans in the classrooms to showcase the sacrifices of our military heroes. I recommend pre-planned questions from the kids to ask the veterans.

Together I hope that we can assist our National Chairman in reaching these objectives. Fall Conference and future bulletins will include more recommendations and information on activities and awards for the Children and Youth Program.

In the Spirit of Service, not Self,

Daphne Coleman
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