



INDIANA



FY 2024

ARMY NATIONAL GUARD CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAM

ANNUAL REPORT

National Guard Kids are Out of this World!





OUR MISSION

FY24 CYP EVENTS

& attendance:

Our mission is to support children, youth, and families of the Indiana Army National Guard during times of **deployment**, extended **separation**, and normal **day-to-day** operations. The mission is accomplished by creating and administering age-appropriate **programming** that supports the **readiness** and resilience of military-connected youth.

The the Child & Youth Program aims to provide opportunities and unique experiences that **foster personal growth**, education, citizenship, leadership, and **resilience** for military youth ages 6-17 in the state of Indiana. Our goals include **advocating** for and **raising awareness** of military connected youth within state programs and partnering agencies, as well as **activating** statewide networks that can better serve geographically dispersed military populations.

OCT	State Teen Summit Leadership Camp	10
NOV	Fall Family Day Veteran's Day Celebration	88
DEC	A Merry Prairie Holiday	1,163
FEB	Military Kid's Night at the Museum	101
FEB	Resilience Day at Perfect North Slopes	105
MAR	MOMC Kickoff at Imagination Station	17
APR	MOMC Celebration Carnival	250
APR	MOMC Youth Fun Run	410
JUN	Kids A.T. Summer Camp	131
AUG	Youth Olympics & Family Field Day	38

Youth & Soldier Participants

2,313

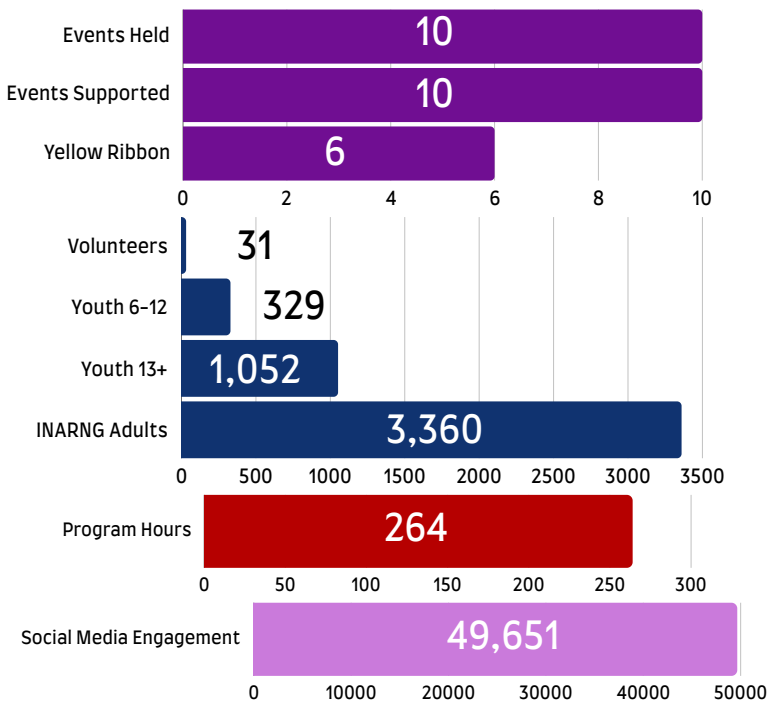
in attendance at events hosted by INNG
Child & Youth and Soldier Family Programs



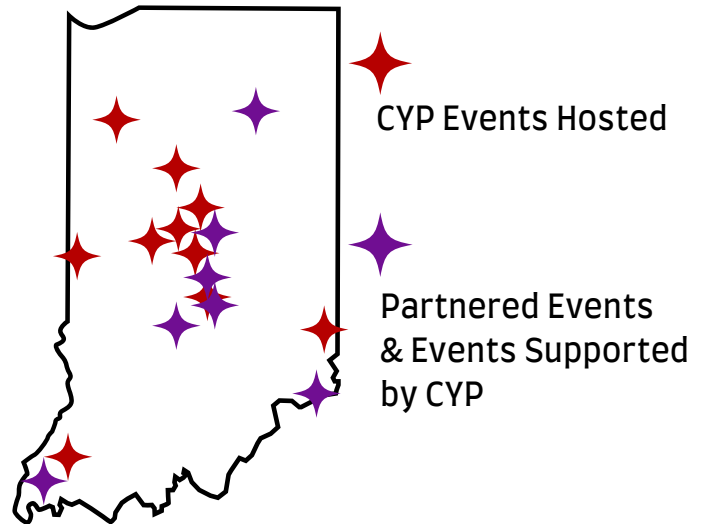


FY24 AT A GLANCE

By the Numbers



Events Map



Volunteers

A total of thirteen adults volunteered their time to spend a full week of camp in support of military youth. These volunteers range from current & retired soldiers to military spouses, as well as former campers excited to return. We rely heavily on them to facilitate programming that instills Army Core Values and MRT resilience skills. Without them, camp would not sustain the uniqueness that makes it “Kids A.T.”

NEW INITIATIVE

A new training course was added to Kids A.T. camp this year: CPR & First Aid Training. We were lucky to have several volunteers who work in healthcare, including an EMT, RN, and a certified volunteer firefighter. With their help, youth had the opportunity to learn real life-saving skills: how and when to properly execute CPR on practice mannequins, administer an AED, and what steps to take in various emergency situations.



I had many campers who have never learned CPR/First-Aid. As a healthcare worker, I loved seeing the campers having this hands-on experience.
Mary Carrier, Military Spouse & Volunteer

My campers understand the ins and outs of the Army Core Values. LDRSHIP has been reiterated, exemplified, and demonstrated every single day.
2LT Luke Schmitt, INARNG Soldier & Volunteer



RESILIENCE IN ACTION

KIDS A.T.

2024 marked Year 30 of Kids A.T. summer camp in Indiana! Campers got a special visit from two of the creators of the Camp, which originated in 1994 at Camp Atterbury. They brought in old photos to share with campers and got a special look into how camp has evolved since then. Throughout camp, military youth marched in cadence from place to place, learned to deploy an MRE, and got to watch the landing and look inside a real Blackhawk helicopter. The MRT lesson this year focused on Active Constructive Responding and how to strengthen connection, and as always, campers practiced the skill of Hunt the Good Stuff with their platoons daily.



“Of the eight weeks of camps that we offer, none are quite like Kids AT! We love the opportunity to collaborate with INARNG staff and volunteers to fill every single bunk at camp. Our staff members are excited to offer programming unique to Kids AT, like CPR/First Aid & survival skills, alongside traditional programs like archery, swimming, rock climbing, & creekstomping. We know that there is immense value in building community, and that is at the forefront for military kids. It is our honor to provide a week where young people who face some of the challenging circumstances of having a family member in the military can be outside, together, with their peers who just “get it”. While we seek to build resiliency skills among our campers every week of camp, we believe that is especially impactful during Kids AT.”

- Zach White, Director, Jameson Camp

State Teen Summit

Eight Indiana military teens convened for a full weekend in October for the Indiana State Teen Summit Leadership Camp. They took part in team-building activities, as well as recreational activities including a high ropes course, clay throwing, woodworking, & more. Each teen completed the Character Strengths survey & worked together to discuss ways in which their strengths could be utilized in leadership roles. They also received a special visit from SCSM Shetler, who participated with them in several activities.





TEEN COUNCIL

Indiana Military Teen Council

The goals of our State Teen Council are to advocate for military youth by bringing to light the unique needs and issues they face. They serve as leaders and role models among military youth, and work hard to be active participants in the military community. Our teens spend a lot of their time assisting in the planning of youth events and programming. This is very beneficial to our program because they have hands-on perspective of what it is like to be a military dependent, and can offer advice of how to best serve their needs.

Activities & Accomplishments

Aside from volunteering at youth events, Teen Council members met quarterly this year in virtual meetings, and also in person at one group outing. They bonded together as they went ice skating at Gainbridge Fieldhouse, completed an Escape Room, & ate a meal at the Old Spaghetti Factory. It is clear these teens are dedicated - they are involved in so many other activities, but still put in effort to serve other military youth.

BEST PRACTICE
Early in the year, Teen Council members met to discuss how to ensure they are consistently involved in CYP events throughout the year. They decided as a group that at least one, ideally two, Teen Council members should be present at every event hosted or supported by Child & Youth. It was a goal of theirs to become recognizable to youth in the military community, so they could serve as role models and build strong relationships with the younger kids over time. So, they created a shared calendar where coordinators could add events, dates, and locations, and teens could sign up to attend as volunteers when they are available. This was especially beneficial for both coordinators and teens, as managing the busy schedules of teens can be a difficult task. The group was successful in having at least one or two members attend each event.

2024 TEEN COUNCIL MEMBERS:



Lara Alliman



Brady White



Katie Stephenson



MacKenzie Carrier



Kori Jones



KEY PARTNERS



INDIANA NATIONAL GUARD RELIEF FUND



Jameson Camp

Indiana National Guard Relief Fund

United Through Reading

Conner Prairie

Indianapolis Zoo

Terre Haute Children's Museum

Greatimes Family Fun Park

Perfect North Slopes

Stuckey Farms Orchard

YMCA Camp Carson

Statewide partnerships have supported our organization by building new support networks and offering unique opportunities specifically accessible to military-connected youth in our state. These networks allow those children and their families to be more strongly connected to their community.



Contact Us



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