

INDIANA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD CHILD AND YOUTH PROGRAM FY21 ANNUAL REPORT



THE INDIANA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

CHILD AND YOUTH MISSION

Support children, youth and families of the Indiana Army National Guard during times of deployment, extended separation and normal day-to-day operations.



Youth gather at Kids AT to receive their awards at the end of the week.

GOALS

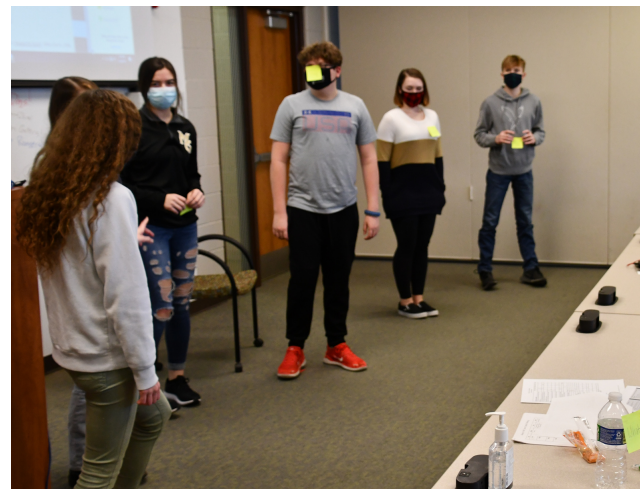
- **Increase** opportunities that foster personal growth, education, citizenship, and leadership for military kids.
- **Advocate** for and raise awareness of military connected youth within state programs and partnering agencies.
- **Activate** statewide networks that can better serve geographically dispersed military populations.



Teen Council member, Connor putting his Resiliency in Action at Teen Summit pushing through a long canoe adventure!

TEEN COUNCIL YEAR IN REVIEW

This past year, the Indiana Military Teen Council (IMTC) made a lot of positive breakthroughs and resilient adjustments amongst the continuous impact of CoVid-19. Currently consisting of five members, they noticed a need amongst their peers that led them to focus their initiative on mental health. They successfully completed a major service project with Helping Veterans and Families, created and handed out self-care and coping skills brochures, and planned and implemented their Teen Summit.



Teen Council conducting an Ice Breaker at their monthly meeting.

BY THE NUMBERS

BRANCH →	ARNG	ANG	GOLD STAR		OTHER	
BRACKETS ↓				MIL TOTAL		TOTAL
ADULTS	552	1	0	553	752	1305
6-12 YEARS	259	0	1	260	0	260
13-18 YEARS	197	0	1	198	0	198
				1011		1763

Of the 752, people not identified initially as military--i.e "other"-- it is likely a good number are military affiliated in some way!

All together, 1,763 people were positively impacted by the INNG CYP!

FY21 AT A GLANCE

- Programming Hours - 225
- Yellow Ribbon Events- 3
- Teen Council Meetings- 14
- Teen Resilience Days- 2
- MOMC Events- 2
- Family Days-1
- Day Camps-1
- Residential Camp- 2
- STEM Workshops- 1
- Teen Summit-1
- Commander Briefs- 2
- Community Partner trainings- 22
- Community Outreach Events- 3
- Volunteer Trainings- 3

“OUR SERVICE MEMBER RECENTLY RETURNED FROM A YEAR LONG DEPLOYMENT. IT WAS NICE TO SPEND TIME TOGETHER DURING FAMILY DAY DOING SOMETHING WE DON'T GET TO DO REGULARLY.”

Paige Wages- INARNG Spouse



Members from the "Orange Tigers" platoon at Kids AT striking a pose with their new SWAG.

State CSM Dale Shetler volunteered for MOMC at the Museum event crowning our Military Youth with purple crowns.



VOLUNTEERS

This year, INNG CYP had the help of 53 youth and adult volunteers. Our volunteers gave over 1,600 hours of their time.

According to the Independent Sector, a national membership organization for non-profits, the value of volunteer time is \$28.54 per hour. Therefore our volunteers time equaled out to about \$45,500!

Majority of our adult volunteer support goes to our annual Kids AT event, but this year we also had support at MOMC at the Museum, STEM Day, and putting together our Love Language Kits, The youth also volunteered with Helping with Veterans and Families.

TEEN RESILIENCY

20 Teens received Master Resilience Training. Continued training has strengthened the mental toughness of Indiana's military youth. This year's Master Resilience Training focused on Mental Health to include coping skills and self-care. Training was presented at Teen Summit covering skills and competencies in avoiding thinking traps and putting it in perspective.



Youth did several team building activities at the 2021 Teen Summit to better build their relationships throughout the week.

"I look forward to the Child and Youth Camps every summer! It makes me happy to be surrounded by other Military kids, learning awesome skills, and having so much fun!" Kaylii Berry- INARNG Dependent -13

"We appreciate [MOMC] events to show how we support everything our kids have to go through being in a military family. We can say it, but to put it in action screams it (in a positive way!)"

SSG Amanda Killion, INARNG

INITIATIVES AND BEST PRACTICES

LOVE LANGUAGE KITS

With the Teen Council focus being on mental health, they recognized that communication plays a big part in how that can affect ones outlook.

In order for families to create a special way to bond, youth and adult volunteers put together over 100 Love Language kits. The kits included a booklet that explained the five love languages as well as supplies to complete several activities to better understand how to incorporate each communication style. The kits were distributed throughout the entire state.

KIDS ANNUAL TRAINING

Kids AT took place at Hidden Falls Camp in Bedford, IN. There were 90 campers and over 20 volunteers. Kids AT is a huge tradition for the INNG CYP and has been taking place for over 15 years. Youth get to experience a week in the life of their parents during their time at annual training. The youth are placed in a platoon and learn different skills such as Land Navigation and outdoor survival techniques. Due to Covid-19, there was no Kids AT last year. Typically, this event has over 300 participants, but numbers had to be cut to help mitigate any risks. Participants and volunteers were very excited to see the event up and running again. We hope to see growth in numbers next year.

VIRTUAL VOLUNTEER TRAINING

This year, we had several volunteers who were not able to attend an in person volunteer training due to the continuous impact of Covid-19. In order to make this successful, the program decided to add in a Virtual Volunteer training option. This allowed the program to successfully train 21 volunteers each receiving 20 hours of training. The training included topics such as resiliency, Child and Youth trends, LGBTQ+ and special needs. The concept received a lot of positive feedback and is planned to continue into FY22.



Youth and volunteers at Kids AT working together to build a tent for the outdoor survival portion of the week.

PARTNERSHIPS

Statewide partnerships have allowed the Indiana National Guard Child and Youth Program to provide high quality programming while building support networks for military youth throughout the state. These support networks create opportunities for military youth and their families to be involved in the community and the community to be involved in the lives of military youth.



Find us on the web

<https://www.in.ng.mil/Family-Resources/Youth-Program/>

Facebook - INNG Youth Program

Program Coordinators

Jordan Weber

Lead Child and Youth Program Coordinator

jordan.m.weber6.ctr@mail.mil

Office: (317) 247-3300 x 85441

Ashley Weisman

Child and Youth Program Coordinator

ashley.weisman.cypc@gmail.com

Office: (317) 247-3300 x 85481

