"action and personal participation help guarantee our children's future"

2011-2012

COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH PROGRAM BUDGET

Special Olympics Summer Games	.\$5,000.00
Christmas Gift Program	514,000.00
(Needed for our share of the cost of providing	g a gift
for every child in a state hospital or state inst	titution:
in cooperation with the American Legion Aux	iliary.)
Educational Grants	.\$2,000.00
TOTAL	\$21,000.00

The only way we can meet this budget is through the Children & Youth Fund. Send your contribution to:

COMMISSION PROGRAMS

- 1. To encourage 100 % reporting from each post.
- 2. The presentation of the following citations:
 - A. Five (5) framed Department Citations, one for each Division, to individuals in recognition for outstanding C&Yactivities. The recipient need not be a Legionnaire. An award will be presented at Department Convention to the person doing the best job at helping children through Legion programs.
 - B. *Top posts for outstanding C&Y program in Department. Five (5) Certificates of Meritorious Service to the Posts in the Department with the most C & Y program with (15-49) members, (50 99) members, (100 299) members, (300-499) members, and over (500) members.
 - C. *Five (5) Special Citations for each Division to the posts with the most outstanding C&Y Program with (15-49) members, (50 99) members, (100 299) members, (300 499) members, and over (500) members. * B & C to be awarded at Dept. Convention.
 - D. One (1) citation to each District that has 100 % of its posts reporting.
 - E. A citation to each post submitting a Children & Youth report to be given to **Division Chairman** for distribution. The special citations are to be awarded out at Division meetings.
- 3. Special Olympics and Hospitality Tent.
- 4. Prevention of Drug Abuse.
- Continued emphasis on alerting the public and health service personnel to the symptoms and dangers of Reyes Syndrome.
- 6. Urge contributions to the Child Welfare Fund.
- 7. (4) Educational grants of \$500.00 to Dependent Youths from the Department of Children and Family Services.
- 8. Missing Children.
- 9. Teenage Suicide Prevention.

America's Children and The American Legion

A CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAM

When you were initiated into The American Legion you heard the Chaplain say, "There shines the Emblem of The American Legion . ." and go on to say, "The two gold rings around the field of blue, bearing our name, typify two of our four main objectives - rehabilitation of our sick and disabled veterans, and care for the children and youth of America." Wordsworth says "The child is father of the man." Those things that influence a child today will determine how the man of tomorrow will feel and act. The American Legion is dedicated to helping make those "influences" positive and that every American child have adequate opportunity to realize his full potential. We firmly believe in the slogan: "A Square Deal for Every Child." And will do all we can to assure its fulfillment.



COMMISSION

on

Children & Youth

THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS P.O. BOX 2910 BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61702-2910 (309) 663-0361



Our Gift To Children - A Promising Future

Department Commission On Children And Youth Recommended Post Children & Youth Calendar



JANUARY 2012

- Support your local Board of Health and schools in their efforts to control diseases and provide for the necessary treatment in your community.
- Each Post should provide community leadership for the organization of a "Youth 3. Drug Educational Program."
- Contact your Special Olympics Area Chairman & volunteer your service.
- 4. Collect for CMN Quarter Mile
- Send in checks for Operation Military Kids and pillow case ink.

FEBRUARY 2012

- Start compiling Post Children and Youth activities for reporting.
 Develop a youth "Friend of the Court"
- Develop a youth "Friend of the Court" program. Obtain American Legion National brochure, titled "Friend of the Court."
- Cooperate with local organizations in developing a program to combat child neglect and abuse.
- Survey your local hospitals and contact your local AMA and suggest an infant hearing assessment program.
- 5. Invite District & Division Chairmen to explain Consolidated Report.

SEND A CHECK IN FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH FUND

MARCH 2012

- Plan an Easter Party for children in your area.
- 2. Promote local "Child Day Care Center Program." Utilize your post home.
- Cooperate with your local Special Education District.
- Initiate a post community project for children recreation.
- 5. Contact local schools for Boys & Girls State participants.
- 6. If you have not contributed to the Department C & Y Fund, please do so now.

SEND A CHECK IN FOR CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK

APRIL 2012

- 1. This is Children & Youth Month! Have a 1. C & Y Program.
- Evaluate your Post Children & Youth Program. Are you meeting your community's needs?
- Get involved in your regional Special 3. Olympics Field and Track Games.
- Join with other interest groups in your community in a program to redirect destructive youth.
- Develop a Youth Summer Employment Program in your community.

MAIL EDUCATION FUND CHECK

MAY 2012

- Encourage children participation in placing 1. flags on graves of veterans on Memorial Day.
- Make a memorial contribution to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation in honor of your deceased members.
- Recommend an individual for the Department Outstanding C & Y Worker Award.
- Have a Global Messenger visit to tell about what Special Olympics means to them. Call Chris Winston for scheduling. 309/888-2551.
- 5. Compile C&Y report and send to Department by June 1st.

SEND A CHECK IN FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

JUNE 2012

- Division, District and Posts submit their C&Y reports with recommendations arriving no later than June 1st to Department Headquarters.
- 2. State Special Olympics Summer Games at I.S.U., Normal, June 15th 16th.
- Send a boy to Boys State and a girl to Girls State.
- 4. Have a program on Missing Children.
- Child & Youth Commission Meeting June 14, 2012 at 1:00 p.m. to compile Consolidated reports.

JULY 2012

- Send one or more underprivileged children to camp, including military family child.
- Cooperate with your District and Regional State of Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. Encourage frequent and careful inspection of foster homes for dependent children.
 3.
- 3. Award (4) four scholarships to DCFS children.

AUGUST 2012

- 1. Each Post should budget an appropriate contribution for the Department Children and Youth Fund.
- 2. Have a coordinated meeting with your Auxiliary, SAL and Riders to plan your C & Y Program.
- 3. Plan a post program on Reyes Syndrome (a film is available from National).
- Distribute to each post member a copy of "Parents Guide to Marijuana." (Can be obtained from Department Headquarters)

SEPTEMBER 2012

- Encourage children to stay in school. Contact your local school, offer your assistance, and explain The American Legion's efforts in the educational and career fields.
- Assist in immunization program for children's diseases.
- 3. Attend National Information Conferences.
- Work with your schools and other interested organization on the problem of missing children.
- Call Joy at Dept. to set up a time for Toby Tire to come show his program. 309-663-0361

OCTOBER 2012

- Make Halloween a safe & fun night, October 31, 2012. To help, hold a Halloween party for the children of your community.
- Have a Global Messenger visit to tell about what Special Olympics means to them. Call Chris Winston for scheduling - 309/888-2551.
- Send in a check to help support Christmas gifts to state hospitals.

NOVEMBER 2012

- . Mail your Children and Youth contributions to Department Headquarters.
- Thanksgiving Week (third week): Develop Post, Unit, Community, "National Family Week" programs.
- 3. Plan a recognition night for outstanding C & Y workers in your community.
- Implement American Legion "Child Fire 4. Safety" program.
- American Education Week Remember your schools.

DECEMBER 2012

- Support the program of Christmas Gifts to children in State hospitals and institutions by your contribution to the Department C & Y Fund.
- 2. Hold Christmas parties for the children in your area.
- 3. Plan a Teen Suicide Prevention Program.
- Plan a program for deployed soldiers families in your area.

*** PLEASE NOTE CALENDAR CHANGES ***

ATTENTION: Children and Youth Chairman

~ Please read at your post meeting ~

Special Olympics Fund

Each year Special Olympics State Games are held at Normal, IL. For those of you who can't attend, that means a 1ot of preparation for the American Legion and Auxiliary Hospitality Tent. We feed about 3,500 athletes and their families each year. Posts donate lots of items to help out each year. Could your post help too?

Ve need:		
	Country Time Lemonade	
	Three Large Containers for Count	ry Time Lemonade
	Napkins	PLEASE REMEMBER TO
	9 inch plates	Send or Take Donations to Department by the first week in
	Ziploc Sandwich Bags	June. With the whole Legion family involved (Legion,
	Family Size Lipton Tea Bags	Auxiliary, SAL & Riders) we can make it a true Legion Family Hospitality Tent!
	8 oz Insulated cups	
popsicles, gr	Money donations: Money donations are coceries (to make dip, veggie trays, gallons of olives,	
	Volunteers to be there:	
I will	l be there on Friday - From	To
I will	l be there on Saturday - From	To

The left over paper products will be used at Convention time in the hospitality rooms. That way we will not use storage space to store paper products for the whole year. We will divide as evenly as possible to the Division Commanders.

Thank you for your consideration, especially for your donation!

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

MAIL TO: Date	American Legion ~ Department of IL P. O. Box 2910 Bloomington, IL 61702-2910		61702-2910
Post Name			
Post # D			
Contact person			
Wishes to contribute to			
Department Children and Youth Fu	nd \$		_
Children and Youth Scholarship Fu	nd \$		_
Children's Miracle Network (CMN (Circle choices of hospital) Chic	N) \$eago/Rockford, Peoria,	Springfield/Champaign,	or St. Louis
Legion/Auxiliary Christmas Fund for Institutionalized children	or \$		_
Special Olympics Fund	\$		_
Special Olympics Hospitality Fund	\$		_
American Legion Child Welfare Foundation (CWF)	\$		REMINDER: CWF checks are to be made payable to Child Welfare Foundation
Operation Military Kids Pillow Cas	es \$		
(If this is a memorial, complete the	following)		
In memory of			
Kindly convey expressions of symponyme	,		
A 11			

Mail this form along with your contribution to The American Legion, Dept. of IL. With the exception of CHILD WELFARE FOUNDATION (CWF checks will be forwarded to National through Dept. of IL), ALL CHECKS should be made payable to The American Legion, Dept. of IL, then earmarked for the fund of choice on the memo line. THANK YOU!

Cut along dotted line

CHILDREN & YOUTH REPORT WORK SHEET - AMERICAN LEGION, DEPT. OF ILLINOIS

MAIL REPORT TO: DIVISION CHILDREN & YOUTH CHAIRMAN NO LATER THAN JUNE 1ST

This work sheet conforms to the items for Americanism and Children and Youth on the Consolidated Post Report Form and should assist you in compiling figures for that form. NUMBER OF KIDS **AMOUNT** Boys State / Girls State Baseball — Little League American Legion, Football, other athletic teams Scouting — Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts School Medal Awards **Oratorical Contest** Scholarships and Essay Awards Special Olympics Operation Military Kids Pillow Cases Cash Aid given to children or families Value of goods given (reasonable estimate) **ALAAC** (American Legion & American Legion Auxiliary Adopt A Child Abuse Caseworker) COST OF PARTIES, GIFTS, OTHER EXTRAS SAL _____ Safety Program Junior Auxiliary Girls State _____ Police Academy Halloween Party Christmas Party_____ Picnics Parades (children) _____ Other (explain) Total Cost of Extras Total Number of hours planning all year COST OF OTHER ACTIVITIES TO BENEFIT CHILDREN Flags and Flag Poles Legion Transportation Costs Cost of use of Post Home for Children Activities Other (explain)

Total Other _____

Contributions:		HOW MANY	AMOUNT
Mental Health			
United Fund			
Mentally Challenged Children	1		
Red Cross			
Child Welfare Foundation			
Cancer			
Crippled Children			
Other Agencies:			
Dept. C&Y Fund			
Heart Fund			
PTA			
Other (Explain)			
Total Contribution			
Total All Activities			
Total Estimated Hours Involved	with Children		
The following individual in our corto recommend him/her for one of the		outstanding Children and Y	outh work and our post would like
Name		(Please furnish additional information outlining the accomplishments and work of this individual on a separate sheet of paper.)	
Address			
This report is submitted by the follo	owing Post:		
Post Name		Post Membersh	iip
Address			
			sion No
Signature		Title	

NOTE TO THE DIVISION CHAIRMAN:

Please send all of these work sheets to Department Headquarters, Bloomington no later than June 1st with you recommendation for the Post that has performed the most outstanding work in Children & Youth and a recommendation as to which Posts in your District in each size group (15 - 49, 50 - 99, 100 - 299, 300 - 499, over 500) has had the best Children & Youth Program.

The Post, District and Division Children & Youth Chairman's Responsibility

The Post Children and Youth Chairman has four major responsibilities assistance, leadership, cooperation and reporting.

- 1. **Assistance** The chairman acquaints himself with various sources of assistance for children within his community, and assists families in securing such aid. He/She uses post funds to help children in emergencies or may call upon the Department or National Organiza-
- Leadership— The chairman, with the approval and support of his commander, can devise projects for the benefit of children needed in his community. He/She interprets the Children and Youth program to the membership of his post and uses the brochure calendar as a guideline for his/her program.
- Cooperation— The post chairman cooperates with other agencies and organizations in the interest of children to avoid duplication of effort and to provide more service to children by pooling resources. He/She serves on boards and committees of established community agencies providing services to children.
- Reporting— Every post is expected to make a report on its Children and Youth work during the year. Complete the C & Y section of the Post Consolidated Report and remind your Adjutant to mail the completed form to Department Headquarters. The Department and National report is submitted to the United States Congress. In addition, the chairman should make periodic reports to the membership and the general public.

An active Children & Youth Chairman in each post and unit has long been an objective of the National Commission on Children & Youth. The Post Children & Youth Chairman is the keystone of the Children & Youth Program. This chairman is a member of one of the largest voluntary corps in this country who work with our young people. It is estimated he or she is one of 50,000 volunteer members of The American Legion and its affiliated organizations taking an active role in giving life and meaning to our Children & Youth Programs.

2011-2012 Children & Youth Program Highlights



1. SPECIAL OLYMPICS

"Let me win, but if I cannot, let me be brave in the attempt." This is the oath taken by every Special Olympic athlete. And for those of us who have been

involved in this program, they are all winners, and so are we. To watch these athletes give their all, overcoming all types of handicaps, and to watch the pride in accomplishment and the joy on the faces of the winners makes your own heart swell with sympathetic pride and brings a tear of joy to the eyes. They still need help - as coaches, as huggers, to help with the games. Maybe your post can sponsor one of the events the softball throw, softball game, bowling, horseback riding, gymnastics. The list is limited only by the facilities available and your enthusiasm. Each year the Department of Illinois furnishes a hospitality center for the athletes, their families and coaches. Each year this hospitality center gets more popular. We supply a large tent with tables, chairs, and snacks (cookies, watermelon, orange drink, vegetable plates, etc.).

Last year we had over 180 Legion, Auxiliary, Juniors and SAL volunteers man the tent - and the money to pay for it. We spent over \$10,000.00. Please help us make this goal by sending in your contribution to the Department, designated for the Special Olympics program.

PREVENTION OF TEENAGE SUICIDE

In the last 25 years, suicide among teenagers and young adults has grown from an occasional tragic incident into an epidemic killer. According to the statistics, the suicide rate for persons less than 21 has tripled since 1955. The fact children are taking their own lives should be especially frightening for parents. Current data now shows suicide is the second leading cause of death among young persons. More frightening is the fact that the problem is growing, and few people know its extent.

MISSING CHILDREN

Every year many children are missing from their homes. Some are kidnapped, some are runaways, some are abducted by noncustodial parents. And at the end of each year, almost 10 percent of missing children cases remain unsolved. Recently, Congress passed legislation that will allow the National Crime Information Center to accept into its computer more specific information on missing persons such as blood type, dental records and scars. In addition, many police departments with parents permission are fingerprinting children with the parents retaining the fingerprints. This year The American Legion has made "Missing Children" one of its three main areas of concern. Each post should get the brochure from National and have a program, to which the community is invited, outlining the seriousness of the problem and what can be done about it.

4. DRUG ABUSE

Drug abuse is a problem in nearly every community. The degree of abuse and the substance used may vary, but you can be sure its there. Drugs are probably being abused in your school, in your neighborhood possibly even in your own home. The best way to stop drug abuse is by prevention. Its a simple concept, but it does require constant work to be successful. Prevention requires a basic understanding and strong commitment. If children grow up with love and security, can express themselves freely, are realistic and yet optimistic about their abilities, and can make sound decisions, they will probably never become dependent on drugs. For those working with young people, it means giving sound advice and guidance in making the choices young people face growing up. For communities, it means seeing that young people receive the kinds of attention and experiences that can help them grow without a desire for drugs. Each post should enlist the aid of local agencies and present programs to parents on what they need to know about drug abuse. Work with your local schools and with other agencies that share your concerns.



5. CHILDREN'S MIRACLE NETWORK

Since 1997, The American Legion Family has been Children's Working together to support their local Children's Working together to support their local Children's Niesels Network Working together to support their local Children's Working together to support their local Children's together the support th Miracle Network affiliated children's hospitals with

funding to assist with the treatment of children in need of medical

One hundred percent of all funds raised with in any Department remains within that Department for treatment of our children. The participating hospitals in Illinois are: St. John's Hospital, Springfield; Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, Springfield; Children's Memorial Hospital, Chicago; and Children's Hospital of Illinois, Peoria. Specialty items are provided to Posts, Units, & Squadrons free of charge to use as a fund-raiser. There are Miracle Balloons & Flag Icon Cards. Perhaps these can be sold at the Post Homes, County fairs, Community Centers or local businesses. The address and phone number to contact is: Children's Miracle Network 4525 S. 2300 East., Salt Lake City, Utah 84117 Phone: 801/278-8900



6. OPERATION MILITARY KIDS PILLOW CASE

For the past several years, in Illinois, C&Y has been involved in a program called Operation Military Kids Pillow Case Project it gives a little bit of home to our

Military families facing deployment. We have a team that goes to deployments they make picture pillow cases for soldiers leaving. We give one to each family member in the picture so everyone gets someone to hug each night. It is truly a heartwarming "Legion Family" Project. Sadly Troops are still deploying so donations are needed for ink and transfer sheets (remember to earmark "OMK" in the memo section of your check).



2011-2012

THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF ILLINOIS CHILDREN & YOUTH COMMISSION CHAIRMEN



AUXILIARY DIVISION CHAIRMEN ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

JUDY SHIPPEE, CHAIRMAN 8155 Mound Rd., Lena 61048	815/233-9078
JUDY KYSKA (1st Division) 739 N. Pine, Arlington Hgts. 60004	847/255-9582
SANDY GEESEY (2nd Division) 24970 Indian Ridge Rd., Sterling 61081	815/442-4132
JUNE O'BRIEN (3rd Division) 107 Weber Rd., Galesburg 61401	309/344-1661
VACANT (4th Division)	
LINDA TROUT (5th Division) 516 Hillsdale, Carmi 62821	618/382-8331

DIVISION CHAIRMEN ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Bernard W. White (1st Div., 2nd Dist.) 4449 N. Springfield Ave., Chicago 60625
GEORGE A. SWENSON SR., CHAIRMAN (2nd Div., 10th Dist.)
36886 Grandwood Dr., Gurnee 60031
Larry Stimeling, (3rd Div., 16th Dist.) 501 E. Jefferson St., Morton 61550309/266-5157
RICHARD C. ANDERSON, VICE CHAIRMAN
(4th Div., 17th Dist.) 1341 13th St., Bloomington 61704309/242-7012
Charles E. Young (5th Div., 24th Dist.) 1119 Stewart St., Carmi 62821

AUXILIARY DISTRICT CHAIRMEN ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

1. VACANT	
2. VACANT	
3. Cathie Meyer	(773/233-3216)
4. VACANT	
5. VACANT	
7. Marlene Russell	(847-677-9264)
8. Jeannie Machara	(708/429-3978)
9. Judy Kyska	(847/255-9582)
10. Christine Smith	(847/249-7504)
11. Mary Coffey(630/879-5151) & Robin Harley	(630/587-6632)
12. Janet Bacon	(815/784-3481)
13. Betty Wescott	(815/625-8756)
14. Marsha Kimler	(309/839-1052)
15. Angela Golightly	(309/945-2551)
16. June O'Brien	(309/344-1661)
17. Valerie Madigan	(217/732-7380)
18. Linda J. Young	(217/247-2004)
19. VACANT	
20. VACANT	
21. VACANT	
22. Elsie McCartney	(618/580-8425)
23. Mary Jimmie Moade	(618/262-5627)
24. VACANT	
25. VACANT	

DISTRICT CHAIRMEN ON CHILDREN AND YOUTH

	ON CHIEDREN MID TOUTH	
1.	William Bier	(773/772-9843)
2.	Bernard White	(773/588-6358)
3.	Ernest Kelley	(773/931-9771)
4.	VACANT	
5.	William Manders	(708/839-4036)
7.	Thomas Stump	(847/497-9910)
8.	William McNellis	(708/349-2324)
9.	VACANT	
10	O. VACANT	
11	1. Robert E. Howe, Jr.	(815/482-3642)
12	2. VACANT	
13	3. Henry Huenfeld	(815/938-3243)
14	4. VACANT	
15	5. Gene Lockard	(309/759-4867)
16	5. VACANT	
17	7. Richard Anderson	(309/242-7012)
18	8. VACANT	
19	9. VACANT	
20). VACANT	
21	1. Bruce A. Hallam	(217/526-3996)
22	2. Donald Wallis	(618/397-0292)
23	3. Jerome J. Goeckner	(217/821-0346)
24	4. VACANT	
	5. Jeffrey Roscow	

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION DIVISION CHAIRMEN ON CHILDREN & YOUTH

C&Y CHRM.: Garrett Slevin, Sr	(309/697-9482)
C&Y VICE CHRM.: Mark Melone	(630/543-4278)
Child Welfare Promoter: Carl O Stratton	(618/877-3631)

Children's Miracle Network Promoter; Phil Shipley	(217/417-9799)
Toby Tire Promoter, Ray Chelmowski	(847/931-7097)