



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California

**2022-23
Children and Youth Program
February Bulletin**



Hello Everyone!

Please keep searching in your communities for children and youth under the age of 18 who have performed a specific good deed or heroic act of physical valor and nominate them for a **Youth Hero or Good Deed Award**. Kudos to the California Units that have obtained awards for children in their communities this year! The time and effort put forth to recognize and celebrate our young heroes, heroines and civic-minded youths emphasizes how important it is to acknowledge the wonderful work and kindness that they demonstrate.

April is Children and Youth Month, and it is hoped that Units are planning for an activity or event to celebrate children. Consider asking your mayor to issue an official proclamation declaring April as Children and Youth Month. Work with your Legion Family – plan and host a Kids Easter Party and include age appropriate crafts, games, and an egg hunt. Collaborate with other organizations in your area to co-sponsor and support a community-wide activity for children.

Also, plan to celebrate the Military Child during the month of April. If you will be making goodie bags try to include some creative purple items or treats, for purple is the color that we use when celebrating our military children. Wear your purple glasses, a purple Tee or a purple scarf to honor these kids on April 15th, which is **Purple Up! Day for Military Kids!** And don't forget to distribute the **I'm A Hero 2** stickers when presenting your military children their goodie bags! The sticker template will be found on the National website under Children and Youth. For event planning ideas visit the National Children and Youth Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAChildrenandYouth/>.

Want to get your Juniors involved? Ask your Children and Youth Chairman to organize a **Table-Setting Ceremony for the Military Child**. Have your Junior members 'set the table' using the items noted in the script. Include young SAL members, as well. Then have the children perform the ritual at a Post event or Auxiliary meeting. This very touching ceremony is another wonderful way to honor our military kids! The script for this ceremony will also be found on the National website under Children and Youth.

"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."

– Frederick Douglass



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