



DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
CHILDREN AND YOUTH
CLOVIS BULLETIN
August 2021

The purposes and principals of our Children and Youth Program follow the guidelines and mandate of the American Legion. However, the Auxiliary enhances the program and adds to it through its continued support of the program as a whole and through assistance with special assignments and activities.

Our goal should be to assure care and protection for children and youth, particularly those of veterans and military families. We should be enthusiastically educating our membership and the public on the needs of the Military child and recommend ways of meeting those needs.

This year I would like the focus of our Artisans to be on the **Support Military Children and Youth**. Experts have discovered that many military children have separation anxiety, fears for the health of the parent left at home, they worry excessively, have sleep problems and frequently complain about having headaches and stomach aches. Copy and paste the link below into your browser to read an article detailing the mental state of military children.\$

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As auxiliary members belonging to one of the largest patriotic organizations, we have access to programs designed to help these children through the stresses of their everyday life.

- Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KIDH2): This is a recognition program for military children who experience extended separation from their military parent or parents.
- Monitor newspapers, TV, and neighborhoods for announcements of men/women deploying overseas or away from their homes.
- Contact schools and churches in your community explaining the program and asking for help in locating military children. Remember to leave your contact information so parents can contact you.
- Once these children have been identified, consider planning a special event at your post homes honoring their sacrifices.
 - Present them with an "I'm a Hero 2 sticker." (The sticker template can be found on the ALAforVeterans.org website under the Children and Youth Committee) tab.
 - Work with the Girls State Program providing stickers for Girls Staters who have a parent who is on active duty.

"When educating the minds of children, we must not forget to educate their heart."

Dalai Lama

In Service Not Self
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