



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

April was formally designated as Child Welfare Month (now called Children & Youth Month) in 1938 and has continued annually. During this special time, we encourage each of you to show your community that the American Legion Family is dedicated to America's youth. Each year, the Committee on Children & Youth focuses on three primary areas of concern. They may include:

- Child Safety
- Child Health
- Family Support

To start, consider:

- Ask local law enforcement to do a bike safety demonstration, fingerprinting, or to talk about internet safety.
- Visit local elementary schools and teach flag education with the help of the Legion's "Our Country's Flag" and "I Pledge Allegiance" comic books available through Emblem Sales.
- Educate eligible military and veteran families about the Legion's Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program. TFA provides immediate financial grants of up to \$1,500 to eligible military veterans and Legion members with children in the home who are facing hardship. These one-time grants are designed to help meet the cost of shelter, food, utilities, and health expenses so children have a stable environment during a time of hardship.

Use these suggestions or develop your own projects, but get INVOLVED. Remember, the only limitation you have for youth programs and activities is your own imagination!

## PROMOTE YOUR ACTIVITIES

You should publicize your programs and activities. Have the mayor or another local official issue a proclamation declaring April as Children & Youth Month. The post commander should issue a news release proclaiming April as Children & Youth Month and list what the post will be doing for this annual observance. Remember, programs supporting the children and youth of your community are news! Invite the news media to your activities and keep them informed.

## REPORT SUCCESSES

Following the observance of Children & Youth Month, the Children & Youth chairmen need to turn their attention to the annual reporting of expenditures and activities. Be sure you have an accurate record of all money spent for the benefit of children and youth by your post/unit during the current year, as well as the number of children who received services and assistance.

Be sure to report all your children and youth activities on your Consolidated Post Report (CPR). This form has been developed to track necessary information about The American Legion's overall program. The CPR can be done online at [MyLegion.org](http://MyLegion.org) by the post adjutant.

Visit [www.legion.org/youth](http://www.legion.org/youth) for additional resources and programs supporting children and youth.