



The West Virginia National Guard Family Program's Youth Program will work together with military members and families, community leaders and organizations and citizens to address the needs and interests of Guard youth within our state. The Child and Youth Program will provide activities for youths 3 to 19 years old — positive activities that promote healthy development and ease the transition to adulthood. These safe, supervised activities are designed to accomplish the following:

- Promote positive attitudes that reinforce core National Guard values.
 - Help in the development of life skills.
- Create a community support network for our Guard youth by working with 4-H, schools, & other dedicated organizations
 - Provide safe, healthy, educational, & recreational activities for Guard youth across the state
 - Provide opportunities to pursue sports and recreational activities.
- Enhance and reinforce educational skills and provide opportunities to acquire career-oriented skills
 - Educate the public on the impact of the deployment cycle on Soldiers, families, kids & the community as a whole
- Minimize parental concerns during times of deployment by reducing the likelihood that youths will engage in risky behaviors.

The Child and Youth Program will work to include a state youth advisory council, state youth symposiums, summer camps, mentoring, buddy support for kids with deployed parents, youth newsletters, community service programs, and partnerships with 4-H and other community organizations and clubs.

For more information on future events & activities, please call:

*West Virginia National Guard Family Programs Office
Child & Youth Program
Susan Izzo
1703 Coonskin Drive
Charleston, WV 25311
561-6821
susan.izzo@wv.ngb.army.mil*