



FY 2019 Annual Report



Note: All Photos and Quotes have been authorized for use by parent/legal guardian.

MISSION

To positively impact Soldier and family readiness, resilience, and retention by providing secure, timely, flexible, and high-quality youth development opportunities and resources which promote the overall well-being of Vermont National Guard children and youth.



GOALS

Provide life-skills and peer-to-peer connections to increase overall Soldier & family readiness

Build community capacity by developing partnerships with education & community resources that support geographically dispersed military youth & families

Expand access to and awareness of Federal, State, and community benefits that support military youth

Utilize leadership and service learning opportunities in ARNG children & youth

Utilize research based curriculum as a means of increasing the resilience skills in ARNG youth to promote soldier and family readiness & retention



CHILDREN & FAMILIES SERVED

Army National Guard	Army Reserves	Army
781 (6-12yo)	45 (6-12yo)	43 (6-12yo)
370 (13-18yo)	16 (13-18yo)	17 (13-18yo)
<u>949 (adults)</u>	<u>105 (adults)</u>	<u>82 (adults)</u>
2,100 Total	166 Total	142 Total

2,408 Total US Army

Air National Guard	Air Force	Air Reserve
452 (6-12yo)	49 (6-12yo)	3 (6-12yo)
175 (13-18yo)	17 (13-18yo)	<u>26 (adults)</u>
<u>561 (adults)</u>	<u>126 (adults)</u>	29 Total
1,188 Total	192 Total	

Marine Corps	Navy	Coast Guard
18 (6-12yo)	52 (6-12yo)	14 (6-12yo)
7 (13-18yo)	15 (13-18yo)	3 (13-18yo)
<u>32 (adults)</u>	<u>102 (adults)</u>	<u>30 (adults)</u>
57 Total	169 Total	47 Total

Gold Star
3 (6-12yo)
10 (13-18yo)
<u>59 (adults)</u>
72 Total

4,162 Total US Armed Forces

EVENT SUMMARY

- Teen Leadership Adventure Camp = 1 x 2-week experience
- Farm to Table Teen Leadership Camp = 1
- Yellow Ribbon Event = 3
- Family Days & Military Appreciation Events = 9
- 9th Annual "Operation Polar Express" = 1
- Community Outreach Briefings/Events = 6
- Month of the Military Child Events = 3
- Day Camp & Youth Development Workshops = 5
- 9th Annual VTNG Family Camp = 2
- Residential Camp experiences = 3
- Regional Youth Symposium = 1
- Joining Community Forces Briefings = 2
- State Youth Symposium = 1

593.5 Total Programming Hours



TEEN RESILIENCE

The resilience of our military youth is critical to the readiness and resilience of our troops. With this understanding Vermont strives to interweave the concepts & strategies found within the curriculum of all programming efforts. Soldiers and their spouses report this has led to improved communication on the homefront, leading to less family tension. Through intentional program design, since July 2016, our youth can be heard talking about their resiliency, a tell-tale sign of program impact.

1 x Put It In Perspective/Assertive Communication/Praise & Active Constructive Responding

1 x Put It In Perspective/Assertive Communication

2 x Energy Management/Problem Solving

1 x Put It in Perspective

5 Trainings =
59 Teens



TEEN COUNCIL

Peer Leadership was selected as priority number one for this past year. The intent was to better enable members to act as Junior Leaders for our camp programs. We accomplished this through intentionally designed leadership trainings, reflective program design, and the commitment of the Council Members.

This was never more evident than at the Region 1 Youth Symposium in Maine when Vermont delegates organized, introduced, and led VT's Community Building exercises for all attendees. Along with an strengthened role in our day program offerings, and our overnight experiences as Leaders In Training (see Best Practices) working directly with younger participants.

DID YOU HEAR THIS

“Ginny got her Final Report Card today. One of the comments regarded how resilient she is in times when things don’t go her way. She said ‘Yeah, it’s because Brian makes me do that training at camp every year’. ❤️. There you go Brian, evidence that your service to our military kids is having a positive impact in their lives”.

~Heather Moultrou, VTARNG Spouse, Mother of 4 Military Youth

“Having these opportunities available for my son has allowed him to better cope with being a military kid by; connecting him with other military children in Vermont, providing him new and shared experiences, all the while helping him be a better person. We will miss not having your programs available to my son & family as I am retiring this year”.

~ Stephen Lanfear, CW4, USA (Ret)

BEST PRACTICES

Leader In Training program intent is to craft leaders with the characteristics and qualities that enable them to be their best-self. The Leaders In Training will be given the resources to learn Teen Master Resilience 6-Core Competencies & 14 Skills, along with Empathy and Group Management Training. These efforts have already led to an increase in program delivery experiences, and to having our first program graduate undertake an official staff position for our annual VTNG End of Summer Camp 2019.

Farm to Table Leadership Camp was announced in April 2019. This one week long overnight camp for 12-14 year old military youth focused on leadership development as well as growing, harvesting, and preparing food for both personal & commercial use. Throughout the experience participants met local North East Kingdom food producers gleaned knowledge from them about their given trade; from a wood-fired pizza restaurant, large salad greens farm, small berry patch, and a chat with the states biggest maple syrup producers.

VOLUNTEERS

Time is one of the greatest gifts to be given, & this year our volunteers gave generously. Their support at Unit Family Days, Military Appreciation Events, Summer Camps & other Youth Development experiences was vital to program success. Another success of this year was increased involvement of the Teen Council in our programs acting as Leaders In Training, delivering training to participants.

**114 Opportunities =
1,522 Hours of Service**

PARTNERS

Vermont Lake Monsters a Minor League Baseball team has been hosting a Military Appreciation Night at Centennial Field in Burlington for 11 (eleven) years. Without a doubt the single best attended Military Appreciation Event of



Military Kids Vermont is a working group of individuals and organizations that feel strongly about providing military youth of any service component with Peer-to-Peer learning experiences, and military families with engaging family oriented activities & opportunities for *very* low, or no cost.



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