

CHILDREN & YOUTH
SHARI LUTHER (WES)
1427 E 1ST Street, Ainsworth, NE 69210

National President Rita Navarrete's theme is Reconnect with our heritage to strengthen our future! The Children and Youth is to work collaboratively with The American Legion to direct and sponsor programs and services that provide care and protection for our nation's children, especially those of our military and veterans. Department President Carol Ulrich announced her theme is "Awareness-Action-Auxiliary-Awards". Your **Awareness** of the programs will provide you with **Action** to succeed for the **Auxiliary** and gather the **Awards**. Let's do great things for our children and youth!

GOALS FOR 2009-2010

1. To recognize and reward the positive actions of today's children and youth by bringing community and peer recognition through the Youth Hero Award and the Good Deed Award. Notify Department about recipient and plan a public event to publicly recognize the youth.
2. To provide direct aid, services and information about sources for children of veterans by partnering with your Post.
3. To educate members and public about the needs of C.W.F. (Child Welfare Foundation). Keep close contact with the Unit Children and Youth Chairman to monitor and report contributions to C.W.F., impressing upon Units the importance of the numbers reported to Congress and the impact it makes. Encourage each Unit to contribute \$1 per member during The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation's award year to receive a beautiful banner/streamer to display on your colors or in your meeting room.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES

April is Children and Youth Month

During this time, The American Legion Family emphasizes their commitment to our nation's children. Visit www.Legion.org/documents/legion/pdf/cybroch_aprilmonth.pdf for more info.

Youth Hero Award- Local/ Unit and National Level

This award is for youth, under 18 years of age, who perform a heroic act of physical valor. Nominations are to be completed at the Unit level and mailed to the Department Secretary, who certifies and then mails the application to National headquarters. ((No application should be mailed directly to National Headquarters). Our National President will sign the Award Certificate and it will be returned to the Unit to be presented on behalf of the Unit and the National Organization. This Department Children and Youth Chairman should be notified of the Award.

Good Deed Award – Local/Unit and National Level

An Award for youth, under 18 years of age, who do not meet the Youth Hero Award criteria, but who are great examples of community service. This award is submitted on the same nomination form as the Youth Hero Award.

Liaison to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation

The Auxiliary's role in the Child Welfare Foundation, (CWF) is to partner with The American Legion, Sons of the Legion and Eight and Forty to educate members and the public about CWF and its mission and to encourage them to include CWF in their annual budget. Brochures, reports, materials and further information is available at www.legion.org/cwf/

AWARDS

“Outstanding” Promotion of Supporting Activities Award.

One Unit in each Division will be recognized for promotion of the most outstanding program of any or all of the identified A.L.A. activities. The entry must be narrative by the Unit Children and Youth Chairman not to exceed 1,000 words; enclosed with a completed copy of the Unit annual report form; name of Department, Unit name and number and Unit Chairman’s name and address and telephone number. No pictures, scrapbooks or folders are to be included. Send Unit entry to Shari Luther, 1427 E 1st St., Ainsworth, Ne 69210 to be judged on the Department level. Entry must be postmarked on or before May 1, 2010.

Child Welfare Foundation Awards by The American Legion

(Contribution year is June 1, 2009 through May 31, 2010.)

Legacy Award: A plaque presented at National Convention to the top Department based on combined total contributions of the American Legion Family and Eight & Forty contributions to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation during the contribution year.

Garland M Murphy Jr. Award: A plaque presented to one department from each organization of the Legion Family with the highest per capita contribution average for the contribution year. Plaques awarded at their National Convention.

Excellence Award: A plaque presented to one of ten departments from each organization of the Legion Family with the highest per capita contribution average for the contribution year. Citations mailed to the runners up.

“Heritage Circle” Gift Club: A plaque presented to Departments of The American Legion Family and Eight & Forty for their cumulative donations during the contribution year. Plaques will be mailed September 1st.

Benefactor - \$5,000 / Patron - \$2,500.00 / Sponsor - \$1,000

Meritorious Achievement Award: A plaque presented to the top department in each organization with the highest increase in per capita giving to The American Legion Child Welfare Foundation during contribution year. Plaques will be mailed September 1st.

“Children First” Gift Club: A plaque presented to organization (Post, Unit, Salon and Squadron) for their cumulative donation made during the contribution year.

Guardian - \$1,000 / Advocate - \$750.00 / Caretaker - \$500

“Cornerstone” Gift Club: A pin awarded to individuals for their cumulative donations made during the contribution year.

Foundation Ambassadors - \$1,000 President’s Circle - \$500

Foundation partners - \$250 Century Club - \$100

RESOURCES

1. Children’s Miracle Network (Legion Family Sponsor)
www.childrensmiracletnetwork.org/amlegion
2. Operation: Military Kids (American Legion National Partner)
www.operationmmilitarykids.org
3. American Legion Children & Youth Programs: www.legion.org
4. JoshCo, LLC: www.joshandfriends.com
5. The Child Welfare Foundation www.legion.org/cwf/

CITATION POINTS - 40 points assigned

10 pts...Unit donated to CWF

10 pts...Unit donated to CMN

10 pts...Unit promoted April as C&Y month

5 pts...Unit promoted Family Week

5 pts...Unit distributed and used Child Safety brochures
