

## Children & Youth Commission Meeting October 5th 2024

The Children & Youth Commission meeting was held at Department Headquarters.

Dave Johnson Chairman called the meeting to order at 1000.

Commission members present were:

Chairman: Dave Johnson 2nd Division 12<sup>th</sup> District Present

V Chairman: Terry Abdelnour 4th Division 17th District Present

Member: Rich Schomer 3rd Division 14th District absent

Member: Bridget Lattanzi 1st Division 7th District absent

Member: Chris Schoo 5th Division 24th District Present Secretary for meeting

Guests: Department Commander Joe Lampert, Adjutant Marty Conatser

Guest: Chad Miller

Commander Joe Lampert expressed communications is vital for the American Legion to move forward. All of the Committee and Commission members must present current and updated information to Divisions, Districts and Posts.

He asked that any changes we would like to make to the Department website for our Commission needs to be done soon.

Dave is leading the project to get the Children & Youth brochure updated with current information and links for the Departments website.

There is a new Children & Youth Magazine that highlights the American Legion programs. This publication is not out in the public yet but should be very soon and we hope to get a link for the information on the Departments Children & Youth web page. This magazine was received at the National C&Y Conference last weekend at Indianapolis.

### **Christmas Gifting**

One of our projects is Christmas Gifting. This project has been declining greatly in the past several years. The commission is looking at other options including children with autism and other special needs. There are around 1500 different types of autism and is showing up in our Vietnam veterans children and grandchildren. The program gives a \$10.00 gift to a 17 year old and under institutionalized.

## **Special Olympics Summer Games**

June 20-21 2025

Friday June 20th will be unloading and organizing the food.

Saturday 21st is the busiest day, cutting/slicing/cleaning/proportioning, veggies, fruits, crackers.

THIS ALL TAKES HELP! If anyone can come and help please do so. There is never enough help.

For Saturday, Dave will be looking for Legion Riders to come with motorcycles for the kids. Six bikes will be at Olympic Town by Red Bird Arena.

Other donations the commission is looking for is Bob the Builder type toys for the kids, nothing expensive but in the construction type toy for the kids.

## **Tennis Games**

August 16-17, 2025 at Bloomington Evergreen Racquet Club.

## **Winter Games**

Have been canceled this year due to lack of participation.

**TFA-** Temporary Financial Aide was discussed and how to use it.

Information can be found at [legion.Org](http://legion.Org)

This is used for members in good standing SAL and Legionnaires.

There must be a minor child in the household. Used by parents needing aide, homeless, or other needs.

They would need to supply financial records to support needs.

It takes about one week to process.

Checks are mailed to Department to be distributed.

This is also good for the National Guard. They also have one year to apply if a spouse is KIA.

**Be The One Project:** Dave has talked with Tony Cross National Chairman for Be the One Project. He wants Division and District officers to sign up for the Columbia University's on-line class so we will be spreading the information. The three members in attendance have already taken the class. Tony mentioned there was a video available along with other information. Dave is working with Tony to get this information so it can be passed on.

## **Consolidated Post Reports.**

It is the responsibility of the Post Adjutant to complete and submit this report. The Executive Board and post members should help provide information on what the post has done. Reports are due June 1<sup>st</sup>. C&Y Division chairmen are accountable to

be at Department Headquarters the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of June to complete your Division report. The exact date will be provided later.

Respectfully,

Dave Johnson  
Children & Youth Chairman