

2025

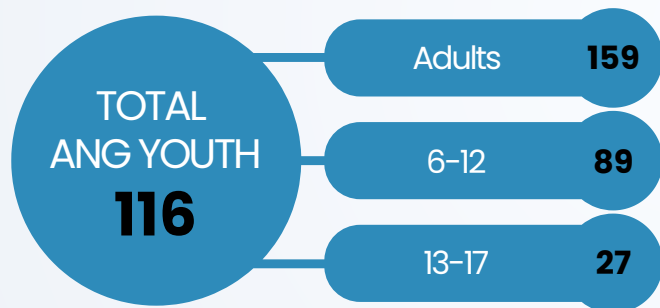
ANNUAL REPORT



www.iowacyp.com

MISSION

We advocate and support military youth throughout Iowa by coordinating program events, teaching life skills, and promoting resources.



GOALS

Develop a sustainable impact through local partnerships

Include aspects of positive youth development into all programming.

Provide access to resources that support National Guard families.

EVENTS HELD

State Teen Panel

3

Yellow Ribbon

5

Day Camps

19

Summer Camp

2

EACH
NUMBER
IS A STORY

STATS

9

YOUTH TRAINED IN MRT

RESILENCY TRAINING

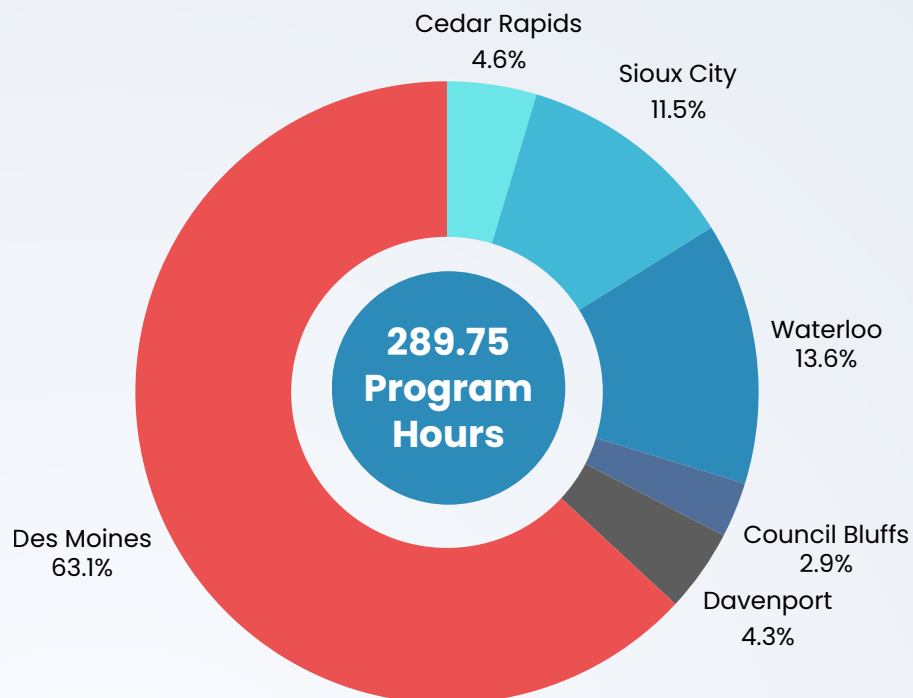
Each year, the Iowa CYP adapts the MRT curriculum to make it more relevant and applicable to the lives of teens.

SKILLS LEARNED

Real Time Resilience
Hunt the Good Stuff
Put it in Perspective

"The support these kids receive is incredible—it reminds them they're not alone. Military life is tough, and we're grateful for CYP helping our children feel seen and supported through it all.."

*-Military Family Ball
ARNG Parent*



REGIONAL OUTREACH

*Serving geographically
dispersed families across Iowa*

111

NEW FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS



VOLUNTEER IMPACT

TASKS PERFORMED

EVENT SUPPORT
SERVICE PROJECTS
MENTORING

4 VOLUNTEER TRAININGS

153 VOLUNTEERS

549 VOLUNTEER HOURS

"The sense of community and connection with other military children has been such a help. It showed me what we can overcome together and gave me invaluable leadership skills, helping me mature and feel more connected to my military peers."

—STP Member, ARNG



STATE TEEN PANEL

In July 2025, elected teen representatives from Iowa, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri gathered in Omaha for the annual Region 7 Teen Symposium—a week focused on leadership, service, and resilience under the theme "Stronger Together."

Highlights included a service project with Food Bank for the Heartland, dynamic peer-led sessions, and powerful guest speakers like Bettie Chambers and Kimberly Arms Shirk, who inspired teens with personal stories of grit and growth.

A standout moment came when one of Iowa's own STP members was personally challenged to apply for the National Guard Teen Panel, signaling a bold next step in youth leadership on a national scale.

The Iowa State Teen Panel (STP) continues to serve as a platform for developing military-connected youth into confident, community-focused leaders ready to make a difference.

4

MEETINGS

16

**EVENTS
SUPPORTED**

**133.5
HOURS**

OUR PARTNERSHIPS



EveryStep provided amazing resources during our annual Iowa Remembers Retreat for military youth who have lost a loved one.



Capitol City Church assembled a team of volunteers to support and bake for our holiday events.



Iowa Select Farms, an organization eager to support military families in Iowa, they donated the take home activities and meals.



From USO, children received supplies for creative crafts and team-building activities, helping foster connection, creativity, and fun.



Pay It Forward Always, a non-profit, enriched our summer camp with a fun activity where kids created and painted legacy rocks, supporting our community-building efforts.



Jester Park Equestrian Center provided a free horseback riding camp for over 50 military youth. The kids learned everything about horses from grooming, to saddling, to riding.

"Partnerships are the foundation of our mission—together, we build stronger communities and brighter futures for our military families."

PRACTICES WORTH SHARING

LEMONS INC. WORKBOOK

The Iowa team developed the Lemons Inc. Lemonade Stand Workbook as a creative, hands-on resource to introduce youth to entrepreneurship and financial literacy. Designed to be both fun and educational, the workbook guides kids through starting their own lemonade stand—covering topics like profit, planning, marketing, and customer service. It also includes a digital companion app to walk kids through the math step-by-step, making it easy to use even when a parent isn't available. This resource provides families with a meaningful way to support learning at home while building real-world skills, confidence, and responsibility.

JESTER PARK PARTNERSHIP

Iowa CYP partnered with Jester Park Equestrian Center and Heroes Helping Heroes to offer a free, multi-day horse camp for military-connected youth ages 9–17. Thanks to this new partnership, 51 youth attended at no cost to families. The timing of the camp was especially impactful, aligning with Iowa's largest military deployment in the past decade, providing needed support for children navigating separation. Activities included horseback riding, equine care, and group reflection. Families praised the camp for building morale, strengthening peer bonds, and reflecting leadership's commitment to putting people first.



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