Dear Youth for Troops Volunteer,

May is Military Appreciation Month! We are excited about the events we have planned for volunteers of all ages. We will be helping The Enclave at Anthem with a Hero Wall Dedication Ceremony. This open house event will have a short presentation at 3:30 PM to honor 31 veterans. We hope to see many friends there and need help with our flag line. Other family-friendly service opportunities this month include our Care Packages for Deployed Troops event, Plastic Mats for Homeless Veterans event, and placing roses at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona early on Memorial Day.

Youth for Troops is for ages 0-120 years, so this is a great month for families, friends, and groups to serve together and support our veterans and military.

We encourage everyone to thank a veteran or military person this month. The words “Thank you for your service” are appreciated and this is a good habit to start. A handshake is an added bonus. When you see the veterans handing out the red poppy flower in the next few weeks, stop and say thank you or ask about the purpose of the poppy, if you don’t know. It is well worth your time.

Thank you for all your support and have a wonderful month!

Warm regards,
Youth for Troops

Care Packing: Assembled 400 boxes in 4 months!
Youth for Troops, Daisy Mountain Veterans, and Packages From Home provide a community service project that packs 100 care packages for deployed troops on the 2nd Monday of each month at The Outlets at Anthem. We are only limited in the number of boxes we can send by our donations for the boxes and donations for shipping costs ($15/box).
- Save travel-size shampoos, conditioners, and soaps.
- Save extra condiments from drive-thrus and help send ketchup, mustard, taco sauce, salt, pepper, etc.
- We collect magazines, so when you are finished reading, consider donating them to the troops.

There are donation boxes located at PostNet, Ocho Locos, Giant Rustic Pizza, The Enclave at Anthem, and Merrill Gardens. Donations for shipping can be given at the event, online, or mailed. We hope you will join us on the second Monday of each month!

Save the Dates

May 1st, June 5th & July 3rd
3:00 – 5:00 PM
First Tuesdays at The Enclave
Join us in working on a patriotic project with the residents of The Enclave.

May 14th, June 11th & July 9th
5:30 – 7:00 PM
Care Packages at Outlets at Anthem
Help us pack care packages, decorate boxes, and write notes for our deployed troops.

May 15th, June 19th & July 17th
6:30 – 8:00 PM
Plastic Mats for Homeless Veterans
Help us sort bags, cut, and make plarn balls for plastic mats.

May 1st Hero Wall Dedication
3:00-4:30 PM at The Enclave at Anthem
We will kick off Military Appreciation Month with a Veteran Wall Dedication and open house at The Enclave at Anthem. We want to invite the community to honor these veterans and encourage volunteers of all ages to sign up to hold flags inside the lobby and dining area. https://www.volunteersignup.org/CLK7C

May 28th Memorial Day Ceremony and Placing of Roses at National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona
Help us place roses on thousands of markers before the ceremony from 6:00-8:00 AM. We will also be helping hand out water bottles at the Memorial Day Ceremony that begins at 8:00 AM. Sign up: https://www.volunteersignup.org/CKWHC

To honor our heroes, wear your Poppy Flower Memorial Day weekend.

May is Military Appreciation Month

Join our Facebook Group and Page @YouthforTroops and follow us on Instagram @youth_for_troops.
Honor Flight Breakfast, Send Off, and Welcome Home

It was an honor to serve breakfast with the Daughters of the American Revolution to the Honor Flight veterans. We enjoyed hand-delivering the cards made by area volunteers to these heroes. Thank you Southwest Airlines for allowing us to salute and wave from the tarmac. Thank you AZ Patriot Guard for allowing us to stand with you to welcome our heroes home.

Appreciation Card Drive and Care Package Donations

Youth for Troops is working on card drives for our deployed troops and the Department of Defense Warrior Games athletes and spouses. We hope to send 350 cards to wounded athletes competing in the Olympic-style games in Colorado Springs this June. We also want to send cards to the spouses that are supporting and cheering for their loved ones during the games. We have the cards and samples of notes, but need support from schools and volunteers to finish this project. Let us know if you can help write cards.

We also need help gathering donations for our care packages and getting sponsorships for shipping costs that will be at least $1500 each month. If you are interested in sponsoring a box, many boxes, or know of a corporation or group that would be willing to help, please contact us. We desire to provide this family-friendly, community service project monthly and send quality boxes to our troops.

Karing for K-9s

Youth for Troops will be visiting schools and groups this spring to share information on a new, ongoing event. Y4T will be collecting items to send in care packages to our deployed working dogs and veteran service dogs. These canines have specific needs and can only consume American food products. We have a donation wish list and hope to pack Karing for K-9s packages quarterly. We will also be asking for cards from our pets to the deployed four-legged heroes. We have the cards and just need your pet to send a note. Contact us for more information on ways you or your group can help with this project.

Thank You Volunteers, Schools, and Organizations

Thank you to all the volunteers that joined us and helped assemble care packages and made plastic mats last month. Thank you to COOLA Suncare for the sunblock items, Challenge Charter School for the food donation drive, United Daughters of the Confederacy for the special items, Mr. Ward for all the DVDs, and The Crossroads Church and The Enclave at Anthem for the t-shirts for the deployed care packages. Thank you to Intertape Polymer Group for the tape dispensers and tape. Thank you to Caurus Academy for the plastic bag drive for the plastic mats events. Thank you to Lifestyle2Nutrition and Work Hard Play Hard Marketing for making our events special.

Y4T enjoyed visiting with the Ocotillo Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution, Brownie Troop 3267, and attending an Honor Flight of Arizona in April. We were honored to have the opportunity to interview the veterans of The Enclave at Anthem for the upcoming ceremony in April, as well. It was a privilege to work with Arizona HOTH Squad of the Patriot Guard Riders on a landscaping project for a Gold Star Family. Thank you all for having us at your events and we hope to see you again at one of our events.

The Youth Board enjoys presenting and bringing patriotic projects to local schools, groups, and organizations. We hope to encourage volunteers of all ages to join us in various service projects. We want to make this group and its projects something that families and individuals can enjoy participating in as often as they like or can fit in busy schedules. Let us know of any group, business, or school you would suggest we contact.

May is Military Appreciation Month!

Youth for Troops is excited about the First Tuesday at The Enclave for May! We are kicking off Military Appreciation Month by helping The Enclave honor 31 veterans at a Veteran Wall Dedication Ceremony. There will be an open house from 3-4:30 with a Dedication Ceremony at 3:30. Arizona Patriot Guard Riders and Youth for Troops will be forming a flag line in the lobby and dining room for the veterans to walk through and we need volunteers of all ages.

This will be a wonderful opportunity to learn how we present and hold flags for patriotic events and funerals. Small children can even participate with the help of parents. If you can stand still and hold a flag for about 30 minutes, we could use your help. We want to line the dining room and lobby with a beautiful patriotic display. Scouts, school groups, clubs, small groups, and volunteers of all ages are welcome to help with this program. Please sign up and help us honor the veterans at The Enclave.

Sign up is online at https://www.volunteersignup.org/CLK 7C

If you would like to be added to our Honor/Support email list and be notified of short notice missions like Honor Flights, funerals, and Gold Star family support missions email youth4troops@gmail.com with “Honor/Support” in the subject line.

Y4T needs volunteers for these events! Sign up for events, wear your Y4T t-shirt or patriotic colors, and honor our heroes through service!
May 14th is coming fast and we need those donations to fill the boxes. Please, check out our donation wish list—we need at least 50 of all the bold food items each month. We also need at least 50 of the hygiene items each month. There are donation bins at PostNet, Ocho Locos, Giant Rustic Pizza, The Enclave at Anthem, and Merrill Gardens. Help us fill the donation bins and fill these boxes for our deployed service members.

Bring any donations to the Hero Wall Dedication Ceremony at The Enclave on May 1st and stay for the ceremony. Join us in a fun evening of packing on Monday, May 14th from 5:30-7 PM at the Outlets at Anthem. THANK YOU!