

GUARD EN OF YOUTH

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT DMNA.STATE.NY.US/FAMILY/YOUTH
OR FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK @ NEW YORK NATIONAL GUARD YOUTH PROGRAM



IN THIS ISSUE

New CYP Coordinator

CYP Superhero
Summer Camp

Teen Council Panel
Members

Recent Events

Volunteer Spotlight

Who's in Family
Programs

NEW CHILD & YOUTH COORDINATOR

I am Monica Musser-Racicot, your new Child and Youth Program Coordinator (CYPC). I work alongside Kimberly Hierholzer out of the Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA) building located in Latham, New York. I'm a San Diego native and recently moved out here with my husband and our family, as my husband is in the Navy.

Most of my professional experience involves working with children in some capacity. I was a middle school education Program Administrator for 5 years, teaching a Leadership class as well as running a before and after school program. While school was out for the summer, I coordinated

summer camp for the Magdalena Ecke YMCA. I graduated with a degree in Speech Communication from Oregon State University, and hold two associate of arts degrees from a small college in San Diego.

In my free time, I enjoy spending time with my family and our two cats Rupurr and Coppurr. Since we are from the West Coast, we love to explore the East Coast and especially the Capital Region. We have a toddler running around, so our weekends consist of parks, playgrounds, and splash pads.

I'm excited to bring some fun, new ideas to Family Programs! Keep your eyes open for our upcoming events!



**"Be somebody
who makes
everybody
feel like a
somebody"**



SUPERHERO SUMMER CAMP

Posing with Chief Spain of the Watervliet Police Department. Chief Spain spoke with the kids about the importance of police officers during our Real Life Heroes presentation. The Mohawk Hudson Humane Society was also onsite to talk about animal rescue.



THANK YOU CAMP SCULLY FOR AN AMAZING CAMP EXPERIENCE! WE HAD A GREAT TIME SWIMMING, HIKING, PAINTING, PLAYING AND JUST BEING KIDS!



MEET OUR TEEN COUNCIL



Hello! I'm Louis Sullivan and I am the President for the New York National Guard Teen Council. I am currently a Junior at Canisius high School in Buffalo, NY. I wanted to be President of the Council because I want to motivate and lead others to the best they can be. Some facts about me are that I want to fly Strike Eagles in the Air Force and I love photography.

Email: louissullivan1028@icloud.com



Hi my name is Brianna Stefik and I am a representative for the Buffalo region for the Teen Council. I am from Lewiston, New York, just 15 minutes from Niagara Falls. I wanted to be Regional Representative because I want to be able to get involved in more events in the area and to help local veterans and service members, military youth, and my community. I also wanted to take on a bigger roll as a leader and be able to understand what it's like being higher up in a group like the Teen Council. I attend Lewiston-Porter Senior High School and I am going into my sophomore year. I am an honor roll student and I play three sports, golf, basketball and softball.

Email: bstefik@outlook.com



My name is Averil Rodriguez and I am the Capital Region Representative for the New York National Guard Teen Council. I chose to run for representative to increase the participation of the Capital Region, and to gain more leadership skills. I am currently going into my senior year of high school, and my sophomore year of college. I am studying Criminal Psychology. Some fun facts about me are: I love art and photography, music, animals, and nature. I have 2 dogs, 4 chickens, and a bearded dragon. Recently, I was able to represent the New York Teen Council during a meet and greet with Nancy Rice, the wife of the Lieutenant General of the Air National Guard.

Email: averilrod@icloud.com



I'm Samantha from New York City Queens and I am the representative for the New York City and Long Island area. I am in eleventh grade. I wanted to be a Teen Council leader because I was a member and I loved it. I wanted to see the infrastructure of the Teen Council and it has since been one of the biggest parts of my life. The kids in Teen Council have become my family. I will appreciate a good Broadway show, I have more books than patience, and I still love Avatar the Last Airbender because I feel a connection with Katara. Thanks guys! I hope you like us!

Email: 8garnets@gmail.com



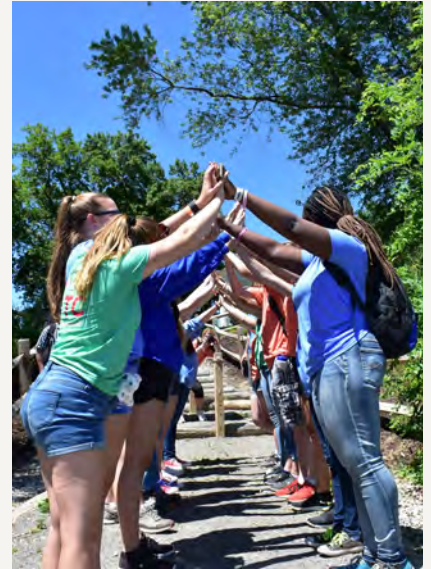
Hi my name is Katie Hibbard! I live in Binghamton NY and I am the regional representative for the southern tier. I am going into 11th grade and I wanted to be a teen council leader because I really want to be a leader who people can come to when they have questions or are just going through a rough time and need someone to talk to. I love to sing and act and want to be a music therapist when I leave high school.

Email: katie3024hibbard@gmail.com



TEEN COUNCIL FORUM TRIP

Our annual Teen Council Forum Trip was held in July in Lake George, New York. We checked out Fort Ticonderoga, toured Lake Champlain by boat, dressed up business casual for a tasty pizza dinner, and explored Six Flags Great Escape.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Child & Youth Support Services wants to give a huge shout out to our amazing volunteers! We cannot do what we do without the help of volunteers. We would like to especially thank Norm Violette, Chris Ross, and Jami Miller for your continuous support over the last year with our Teen Council.

We are ALWAYS in need of volunteers! Please contact Kimberly Hierholzer or Monica Musser-Racicot if you are interested.



WE NEED VOLUNTEERS!
CONTACT THE CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAM
FOR MORE INFORMATION!

PRE-DEPLOYMENT YELLOW RIBBON SUPPORT



ROCHESTER, NY

In early September Child & Youth supported the 1-171st at their Pre-Deployment Yellow Ribbon. While the adults were receiving necessary guidance and information, we carried out some Master Resiliency Training (MRT) with the children in attendance. We created dog tags, participated in team building games, and even learned how to properly get in to formation.

Teen Council Member Meets Wife of Air National Guard Director

On August 2, I was invited to attend a meet and greet with Mrs. Rice, the wife of the Lieutenant General (the Director) of the Air National Guard. She enjoys spending time with the Family Readiness programs, so those who were invited played an important role for the the families of the 109th Airlift Wing. There were those who work with Family Retreats, Yellow Ribbons, a Personal Finance Consultant, Teen Council (though I was the only Teen Council member able to attend), etc. My dad was also invited. I was very excited for this event. I bought a \$70 business outfit, I woke up really early and curled my hair (which only become frizzy due to the humidity). Mrs. Rice has visited around 61 Air Force bases.

The meeting itself went well. We sat at a conference area, Mrs. Rice at the end. We each introduced ourselves, talking about what we do and some fun facts about ourselves. Afterwards, it was open to questions. This was the first time Mrs. Rice has ever met a Teen Council member, so she took that time to get to know me. Colleen Casey and I made made it a goal of ours to tell her how amazing our group of teens are. Afterward, we got a group photo and I got a photo with Mrs. Rice, and then we talked briefly (about pets, chickens mostly). Overall, the meet and greet was fun, and Mrs. Rice seemed pretty happy to meet all of us. To be honest, I was really nervous being there, but she was laid back and she's a person just like us.

WHO'S IN FAMILY PROGRAMS?

Director of Family Programs

John Willsey

518-786-4807

State Chaplain

Chaplain Ehler

518-786-0394

ID Cards/DEERS

Taylor Kuchera

518-786-4976

Military One Source

Jodi Ankabrandt

518-786-4976

Transition Assistance (Rochester)

Larry Linville

585-783-5385

Transition Assistance (Latham)

Frank Kehn

518-786-4605

Employment Support Programs

Darlene Stanton

Specialist

518-786-4911

FAMILY READINESS SUPPORT ASSISTANCE (FRSA)

Rochester: Gary Pike- 585-783-5367

Ft. Hamilton: Monika Turowski- 347-569-8047

Contact the FRSA for hands-on assistance in establishing and maintaining soldier and family readiness

FAMILY ASSISTANCE SPECIALISTS (FAS)

Latham: Joanne Murphy- 518-786-0390

NYC: Betty Eissfeld- 646-424-5555

Syracuse: Ann-Marie Lara- 315-438-3022

Buffalo: Maggie Murray- 716-888-5797

Troy: Karen Gliot- 518-285-5830

Rochester: Douglas Scott- 585-783-5310

Ft. Hamilton: Daveia Lee-Ramirez- 347-569-8048

Camp Smith: Sabrina Ames- 914-944-6592

Contact FAS for information, referral, and outreach to service members and families.

CHILD & YOUTH DEPARTMENT

Kimberly Hierholzer- 518-786-4904

Monica Musser-Racicot- 518-786-4614

Contact us for childcare resources, camps, volunteer opportunities and to share your great ideas!

PERSONAL FINANCIAL COUNSELORS

Latham: Adam Stevens- 518-786-4683

NYC: Arthur Flores- 347-525-4265

Niagara Falls: Timothy Sobloewski- 571-389-4265

Camp Smith: Carol-Anne Robinette- 571-284-8230

Farmingdale: Victor Lee- 516-492-8221

West Hampton: Time Yeo- 571-421-7176

Troy: Lisa Dapolito- 518-429-7866

Rochester: Stephan Premo- 585-297-9210

Scotia: Laurie Bonser- 518-948-7028

Syracuse: David DePiazzo- 315-272-6107

PSYCHOLOGICAL HEALTH

Alcohol and Drug Control Officer

Tiffany Noel

518-786-4903

Substance Abuse Prevention

Coordinators

Jennifer Lyons- 518-786-0406

Karl Hengelsberg- 585-783-5395

Judith Watt- 646-424-5554

Suicide Prevention Coordinator

Ryan Wolfe

518-786-4661

Psychological Health Coordinator

Marsha Caraway

518-786-7956

FAMILY READINESS SUPPORT ASSISTANCE (FRSA)

Latham: Patricia Lopez- 518-786-4656

Ronkonkoma: Laraine Figliuolo- 631-471-0904

Syracuse: Teresa Hughes- 315-438-3062

Buffalo: Suzanne Milligan- 716-888-5709

DO YOU ENJOY COOKING?
BE A PART OF OUR RECIPE BOOK!

NYNG Child & Youth Presents
FAMILY-FRIENDLY RECIPES



If you'd like to be a part of Family Programs' first-ever Recipe Book, please submit a family-friendly recipe to monica.e.musser-racicot.ctr@mail.mil by EOD November 2nd

Categories:
Appetizers
Side Dishes
Main Dishes
Desserts

