



**Beyond the
Yellow Ribbon**



Minnesota Military Teen Panel Quarterly News

Summer 2015

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Want to join the Minnesota Military Teen Panel?

Contact the Lead Child and
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Contact the Minnesota
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2015 Month of the Military Child-Recap

April is the Month of the Military Child, during this month we take the time to recognize children and their sacrifices they make by having a parent in the military. Thanks for everyone's support by wearing our Purple Up! t-shirts; participating in the 2015 Art Contest; and going to the Timberwolves games that recognized military members and their families. We are already excited for the next year and are starting to plan next year's events and t-shirts!

By: Cailey Isaacson- Teen Panel Member

Or, find information about the Teen Panel [here](#).

We're on Facebook!

Be sure to visit the [Minnesota Military Teen Panel](#) on [Facebook!](#)

Teen Spotlights Senior Shoutouts:



Claire Zenzen
Senior-Military Teen Panel

I have been on the panel for 5 years, since the beginning of the Teen Panel. I'm going to graduate from Red Wing High School in June. This fall I plan on attending Winona State University, majoring in Nursing. After that I want to be a traveling nurse so I can see the world!!



Mitchell Fisher
Senior-Military Teen Panel

I have been on the Teen Panel



Teen Panel May Meeting

The weekends with the Teen Panel are productive, but also fun. On the weekend of May 1-3 we got a lot done! We've perfected our icebreakers to ease tension and get to relate to each other. On Saturday the Teen Panel went to the Crisis Center in Minneapolis and prepared cheese and crackers and had snack with the kids. When we weren't busy we had free time to mingle and learn even more about one another. Throughout the weekend we worked out last minute details and finalized the welcome video that turned out amazing.



By: Joise Westling- Teen Panel Member

Summer Events for Military Kids

for 4 years. I am graduating high school from Wayzata High School. After high school I am starting at National American University in June.



Alivia Rardin
Senior-Military Teen Panel

I have been on the Teen Panel for 5 years. I will be graduating from Brainerd High School. I already have received my Associates Degree from a local community college. I am planning on taking a year off of school and working full-time.

This summer has multiple ways you can get connected to other military youth and have fun doing it. One way to do this is by going to Camp Ripley for a week for the Minnesota National Guard Youth Camp (ages 10-12) and Teen Camp (13-15).

If your ages 9-12 you can do the Tween Overnights at places such as: Great Lakes Aquarium, Minnesota Zoo, Sea Life Aquarium and much more. If you want to meet other youth from all military branches Operation Purple Camp is your summer camp! They offer a FREE week of camp for military youth.

For more information go to:

<http://www.militaryfamily.org/kids-operation-purple/camps/>

<http://mmgyc.org/>

By: Cailey Isaacson- Teen Panel Member

2015 MN Teen Summit

"The Jungle can be a scary place if you're alone, let others help you through the thick of it."

The 2015 Summit theme is Welcome to The Jungle. We need each other to get through our "thick of its". Everyone has their very own "thick of it" and problems but we all have a common "thick of it"; having a parent in the military. This year we will be going bowling and doing Feed My Starving Children for our community service outing. We will also be doing some very interesting workshops, we will all learn a lot. Come to The Summit to meet other people going through the same "thick of it" while having a great time!

To sign up for this year's Teen Summit go to the Minnesota Beyond the Yellow Ribbon website.

By: Joise Westling , Teen Panel Member

MILITARY DISCOUNT

Take advantage of these great offers from businesses that want to show their appreciation for your service!

Vera Bradley- 10% off in stores and outlets

Foot Locker - 20% off

Old Navy- 10% off every Monday

Hot Topic- 10% off

Aeropostale-10% off

Converse Shoes- 10% off

Bass Pro Shops - 10% off on military discount days

Nickelodeon Universe at Mall of America - \$10 off an unlimited-ride wristband

Underwater Adventures Aquarium at the Mall of America - \$3 off admission

Chili's- 25% off

Cracker Barrel- 10% off

Chevys - 50% off

Applebees - 10% off

Arby's - discount varies

Verizon - 23% off monthly bills.

Suzuki- \$500 off

Toyota-\$500 off plus an additional \$500 off for first time buyers.

Be sure to present military identification when using a military discount!

And don't forget to check Beyond the Yellow Ribbon's "[Special Offers](#)" page for more ongoing deals!



Community Service Near You

A great way to get involved in your community is to volunteer! Volunteering is an activity that gives you immediate results of making people happy. There are numerous community service projects all over Minnesota. Some examples include Feed My Starving Children, The Salvation Army, American Red Cross, Minnesota Historical Society, Northern Lakes Arts Association (northern MN), and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. All of these organizations offer a multitude of different jobs you can do that are not only beneficial, but also loads of fun! Check out these awesome opportunities and get involved in your community!

By: Megan Olson, Teen Panel Member

Teen Panel Member's Dream Vacations

Claire Zenzen: I'm willing to go anywhere, but I would really like to go to Iceland. If I got to go to Iceland I would want to go to the Valley of Tears, the Blue Lagoon, Crystal Cave, Silfra, and about a million other places. I would want to go with my family. I want to go to Iceland because it is absolutely beautiful there!!!



Cailey Isaacson: There are a lot of places to go, but if I had to choose one place it would be Alaska. If I went to Alaska I would want see the wildlife, go hiking, and go whale watching and much more. I love the outdoors and Alaska is such a beautiful place and I would want to go with my dad because I know he would love this trip as much as I would!

AJ Steinmetz: My dream vacation is to go to Los Angeles in California. I would like to travel here with my best friend and spend time on the beach. I would want to travel here on a warm day to catch some sun.

Josie Meyers: I would like to go to Japan. I want to go somewhere with lots of sakura trees, away from everyone. I want to go with someone I love. I want to go because it is beautiful.

Megan Olson: My dream vacation is to Norway. I want to travel there because that is where my family comes from and I want to experience the culture that is there. I would go with my twin sister, and the rest of my family. The places I want to visit there are The Telemark Canal, and Norway's best preserved sailing town Skudeneshavn.

Tien: My dream vacation would be to go to the Caribbean Sea because I love the oceans, I would go with my best friends Charlie and Dani. We would stay in really nice hotels and go swimming every day.

By: Claire Zenzen- Teen Panel Member