

## **HOW TO CONDUCT A “KIDS OF DEPLOYED ARE HEROES 2” PROGRAM**

**Committee:**

**Children & Youth**

**Submitted by:**

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**Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2 (KDH2): honoring military children who may experience a separation from one or both parents, whether deploying to a war zone, having a short tour or extended TDY (temporary duty assignment).**

1. Make preparations for a supply of “recognition buttons” for distribution. Visit the Children & Youth page of the Members Only section at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org) for more information. Buttons may be ordered through the Auxiliary, a commercial vendor or made locally with the following content:
  - I’m a Hero 2.
  - Proud Parent of a Military Child with a picture.
  - Proud Grandparent of a Military Child with a picture.
2. Call a planning meeting: include the Legion Family, especially Junior members. Consider the following ideas to recognize military kids:
  - Make or purchase and distribute 'I’m a Hero 2' buttons.
  - Make or purchase and distribute 'Proud Parent/Grandparent of a Military Child' with picture button.
  - Can't afford buttons? Make or purchase and distribute stickers.
3. Decide the best location for recognition of military kids:
  - Coordinate with Family Readiness Groups for button distribution during family days.
  - Coordinate with Legion Family members for local community days/fairs etc.
  - Consider having an activity day/dinner for military families at your post home.
  - If your unit is in close vicinity to a military installation, contact Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) for a listing of activities in which you might have a concession or table.
  - Make buttons available for ALA Girls State and The American Legion Boys State programs and Junior members.
  - Consider suggestions from Junior members for school activities and locations.

No matter what you decide to do, plan a public relations campaign around your event. Consider having Auxiliary membership applications available. Community events provide the best opportunity to sign up new members.