



# AMERICANISM eBulletin

An electronic update from the Americanism Commission



[Americanism@legion.org](mailto:Americanism@legion.org)

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## AMERICANISM PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES BY THE NUMBERS FOR 2019



Chairman Richard Anderson (CT)  
Americanism Commission

It is a privilege to share the following impact numbers that represent our hard work and dedication to foster youth and citizenship development, and support for our military, veterans and their families throughout our community, state and nation. These 2019 By The Numbers represent what we did throughout last year, such as program participation, grant fulfillment, contributions and more. By The Numbers represents our collective efforts for upholding two of the Four Pillars of The American Legion for which we are so passionate – Americanism and Children & Youth. These numbers represent 100 percent Americanism at its very finest. I encourage you to share these numbers with leaders within your respective department and community, and with the public as a way to elicit an awareness about the impact that The American Legion has on today's youth, military, veterans and Americans everywhere.

## AMERICANISM AND CHILDREN & YOUTH “BY THE NUMBERS” FOR 2019

### American Legion Baseball (ALB)

- **54,225** youth came together to form **3,415** teams playing American Legion Baseball throughout the nation (2,121 senior teams and 1,294 junior teams).
- **1,152** players participated at the eight national regional tournaments of which **144** went on to play in the American Legion World Series.
- A total of **602,000** viewers watched the American Legion World Series on ESPNU.
- There were over **1.2 million** visits to Legion Baseball websites over June, July and August.
- American Legion Baseball social media accounts received over **1.26 million** impressions in July and August.
- **80,212** subscribers to the American Legion Baseball e-newsletter “The Dugout”; an **increase of 15,823** subscribers from the previous year.
- There are **81** American Legion Baseball program alumni who are enshrined in the National Baseball Hall of Fame; this is an **increase of 2** additional players since last year.

### Junior Shooting Sports

- **1,359** individual athletes entered the postal round competition; this is an **increase of 7** additional competitors from the previous year.
- **184** shooting clubs entered the national postal round competition; this is an **increase of 30** from the previous year.

### Boys State

- **17,471** participants in 50 Boys State programs.

### Scouting and The American Legion

- **3,430** youth were recognized by The American Legion with a certificate issued at the national level for achieving their Eagle Scout award in the Boy Scouts of America.
- **152** youth were recognized with a certificate issued at the national level for their achievement in the Venturing, Sea Scouts or Explorers programs of the Boy Scouts of America.
- **154** youth were recognized by The American Legion with a certificate issued at the national level for achievement their National Gold Award in Girls Scouts of the USA.
- A total of **2,385** Scouting units were chartered by Legion Family across the nation (an **increase of 39** units from the previous year; American Legion posts chartered **2,331** and Sons of The American Legion squadrons chartered **34** and American Legion Auxiliary units chartered **20**, involving **57,988** young people and **21,649** adult leaders.
- **12** Legion Family members recognized with a Scouting Square Knot Award of The American Legion for their active involvement in The American Legion’s Scouting programs.

### Youth Cadet Law Enforcement

- **21** American Legion departments have an established Youth Cadet Law Enforcement program. The 2019 Consolidated Post Report indicated there were **6,790** youth involved; this is a reported **increase of 5,536** youth from the previous year.

### Oratorical

- The 2019 Consolidated Post Report indicates there were **1,125** oratorical contests conducted across the nation involving **2,837** youth contestants.

### National Youth

- **3,400** youth were involved in national-level Legion youth program events, tournaments, contests and activities.
- American Legion Baseball program information was exhibited at the national American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA) to a combined total of **6,000** baseball coaches and industry leaders from throughout the nation.

### Youth Education

- **\$1,028,643\*** in fundraising was amassed during National Commander Brett Reistad’s Legacy Run year spanning Oct 1, 2018 – Sept 30, 2019.
- **264** students were awarded a total of **\$1,585,124** in academic scholarships at the national level.
- The 2019 Consolidated Post Report states that **24,699** students from throughout the nation were presented an American Legion School Award Medal; an **increase of 229** from last year.

### Flag

- The 2019 Consolidated Post Report indicates there were **4,475** Flag Day activities; this is a reported **increase of 156** activities from the previous year.
- **49,584** subscribers to the American Legion Flag Half-Staff Notification Alert service.

### Get Out the Vote

- The 2019 Consolidated Post Report reflects there were **1,520** Get Out the Vote activities conducted in communities throughout the country; this is an **increase of 20** activities from the previous year.

### Legion Conferences

- **416** Legion family members attended the annual national Children & Youth Conference and Combined Americanism Conferences in Indianapolis that included the programs of American Legion Baseball, Boys State, Oratorical, Junior Shooting Sport, Children & Youth, as well as Scouting and department chaplains.

### Four Chaplains Sunday

- The 2019 Consolidated Post Report reflects that **1,466** activities were conducted in observance of Four Chaplains Sunday; this is an **increase of 49** activities from the previous year.

### Youth Welfare and Safety

- The 2019 Consolidated Post Report reflects that a total of **1,744** child health and safety activities were conducted throughout the nation; within that total **1,187** were Halloween safety activities.

### American Legion Child Welfare Foundation (CWF)

- **\$619,457\*** was received in CWF donations; this is an **increase of \$57,404\*** from the previous year. Of the 2019 grand total, **\$427,315\*** was contributed by the Sons of The American Legion; this is an **increase of \$99,721\*** from the previous year.
- In 2019 the CWF Board of Directors awarded **\$1,561,282\*** in grants. Grants were awarded to **22** non-profit organizations that contribute to the physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs of children and youth, and to **2,767** minor children of **1,539** U.S. Coast Guard servicemembers during the longest federal government shutdown in our nation's history. This reflects an **increase of \$794,52\*** from the previous year.

### American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation (VCF)

- **\$654,326\*** was received in donations to the American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation; this is an **increase of \$221,201\*** from the previous year.
- The American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation, doing business as the Veterans & Children Foundation, contributed **\$126,832\*** for routine funding of the Temporary Financial Assistance program.

### Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA)

- **3,277** minor children of **1,777** veterans throughout **44** states received **\$1,141, 903\*** in non-repayable cash grant assistance at the national level. Within those grand totals there were **2,767** minor children of **1,539** U.S. Coast Guard servicemembers who received nearly **\$1 million\*** in cash grants during the longest federal government shutdown in our nation's history.
- Cash grants for U.S. Coast Guard families were made possible by generous donations of **\$250,000\*** from American Legion Charities and **\$750,000\*** from the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Additionally, **\$75,000\*** was contributed by the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation and **\$126,832\*** from the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation, dba the American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation, for routine annual funding of the Temporary Financial Assistance program.

(\* Subject to final audit)