



SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER
301.295.7849
WALK-INS WELCOME!

Youth Sponsorship

JOIN THE TEAM!

(Open to all 10-16 years of age)

Moving from one military installation to another is nothing new to a military child. Leaving behind friends and familiar environments is never easy. For this reason, Youth Sponsorship at NSA Bethesda would like to invite you to be a Youth Sponsor and join the youth council!

This is an opportunity for you to be a support to your peers, share the challenges associated with military lifestyle, share your thoughts with your peers, and make a difference participating in fun, hands-on activities, and volunteer opportunities.

Cost: FREE

***Monthly Meetings are Ongoing.
Please contact your School Liaison
Officer for additional information.***





Youth Sponsorship

For military youth, moving from one installation to another is nothing new. It is a common occurrence that most families experience every one to three years. While these frequent relocations are something military youth become accustomed to, the transition to a new community and school is never easy. Leaving behind friends, neighbors, and supportive adults as well as familiar standards and environments can make kids more vulnerable to negative influences or risk factors. Youth may be more influenced by peer pressure to do things they would not normally do. Some youth may be uncomfortable meeting new kids and may be hesitant to seek out opportunities to get involved with their new school or community. This can lead to increased risk for isolation, depression, and loneliness. For these reasons, it is critical that incoming youth to any installation have access to positive peer groups and pro-social activities. Youth need to get connected to their community and have opportunities to bond with positive peers and adults even before arriving at an installation. Helping youth successfully make the transition from one installation to another is the role of the **Youth Sponsorship Program**. According to the Department of Defense (DoD), the primary objectives of the Youth Sponsorship Program are to ensure communities identify and reach out to incoming youth and help them get adjusted to their new surroundings.

Annapolis Youth Sponsorship

To request a Youth Sponsorship sponsor contact the Annapolis Youth Sponsorship Coordinator at the Annapolis Youth Center at **410-293-9396** or visit [Annapolis Youth Center](#)

Dahlgren Youth Sponsorship

To request a Youth Sponsorship sponsor contact the Dahlgren Youth Sponsorship Coordinator at the Dahlgren Youth Center at **540-653-8009** or visit [Dahlgren Youth Center](#)

Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling (JBAB) Youth Sponsorship

To request a Youth Sponsorship sponsor contact the JBAB Youth Sponsorship Coordinator at the JBAB Youth Center at **202-767-4003** or visit [JBAB Youth Center](#)

Patuxent River Youth Sponsorship

To request a Youth Sponsorship sponsor contact the Patuxent River Youth Sponsorship Coordinator at the Rassieur Youth Center at **301-342-1694** or visit [PAX River Youth Center](#)



Resources

[Military Youth on the Move](#)

A wonderful resource that reaches out to youth with creative ways to cope with issues that arise in the face of a move, such as transitioning to a new school, saying goodbye to friends, and getting involved in a new community.

[Staying Strong](#)

Staying Strong is designed to support the resilience of military-connected children and families through free on-line educational tools and guidance.

[Military Kids Connect](#)

This site helps military kids connect with each other and share common concerns.