

# *in it with kids* Military Teens

## Challenges of Military Life

Military teens move an average of seven times during their school-age years. Imagine having to start over at a new school every other year, all while trying to figure out who you are and where you belong. Add to that the fear for a deployed parent and the heartache of missing your mom or dad when it's your birthday, Christmas break or even high school graduation.

Since 9/11 this generation of military teens has only known war. They are the kids who, because of the challenges they face, have the potential to become our resilient leaders of tomorrow.

## Going

For these military teens to become tomorrow's leaders, they need adults who help guide the way. Young Life volunteers cultivate relationships with kids on their turf. They show up in kids' lives and walk with them in a turbulent and, often, lonely world.

We've been showing up in the lives of military teens since the 1950s when Jim Rayburn, the founder of Young Life, made reaching military teens a priority. We earn the right to be heard and give them the guidance they need to navigate adolescence and grow into the leaders our world needs.

## Inviting

**Each location a military teen moves to, presents a new set of doors to walk through.** They never really know what's awaiting them on the other side of that door to a new house or a new school. We want teens and parents to know that upon arriving at an installation with Young Life Military-Club Beyond, they're going to walk through a door where we welcome them, cheer them on, and provide adventure and an invitation to live life as it was meant to be at:

### CLUB

This is where for an hour each week military teens can put aside the fear and pressures they face and just be kids. It's laughter, fun and a great place to make new friends with other kids who understand military life.

### CAMP

Camp is the opportunity to experience high adventure and belly laughter. It's a safe space where for a week where kids can be themselves, create lasting memories and experience God's love in tangible, transformative ways.

### CAMPAIGNERS

Campaigners is the time during the week when kids and leaders dig deeper in the Bible and discover how God's word encourages them to grow in their faith through study, service and leadership.

## Investing

Military teens need caring adults willing to enter the culture of military life and be a consistent support in their inconsistent world.

## *Young Life* Find Out More

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You were made for this.™

