



VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT

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Veterans & Family Support Program is the foundation of our organization. We put our hearts into assisting veterans, service members and their families along with promoting and providing access to resources that are **Simply the Best for Our Veterans.**

Unmet Needs

National Military Services aids all that are currently serving. These services include **MAP (Military Appreciation Program)**, **Adopt a Unit**, care packages, financial assistance, **"Sport Clips Help a Hero Scholarship"** and **Student Support Grants**.

National Veteran Services (NVS) provide service officers both pre and post discharge...this is crucial in making sure veterans receive their earned benefits and entitlements. Let's face it, VA Claims process is a nightmare at times. Why not use a **VFW Accredited Service Officer** that will help your veteran and families every step of the way? The service is proudly offered **FREE OF CHARGE!** 😊

Suicide Prevention & Mental Health Awareness / Veterans Mental Wellness

Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) is a main focus this year and being aware of the warning signs and ways to help anyone, especially our veterans and military families through it. With PTS not recognized easily, nor treated properly, the concern is rising rapidly. We need to provide avenues for them to get the proper care and programs for recovery.

Education is a valuable tool to combat the issue. Let's raise awareness!! The VFW has teamed up with **GIVE AN HOUR, CAMPAIGN TO CHANGE DIRECTION, ONE MIND, PATIENTSLIKEME AND ELIZABETH DOLE FOUNDATION** for Veterans Crisis. Department of PA has implemented a peer group, focusing on Mental Health. Please join the Facebook page to stay informed. The forum is stronger in numbers and many shoulders to lean on are going through some of the same struggles.

Veterans Crisis Line connects veterans in crisis and/or their families with trained and caring responders....call, text or chat online....confidential support 24/7 – 365 days a year!

DIAL 988, PRESS 1 ~~~~ TEXT 838255

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/4054484594826446>

Suicide Awareness and Prevention - VFW Department of PA



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VFW Foundation Grants

- **Post Assistance Grant** – offers exclusively to VFW Posts to offset expenses for building repairs/equipment.
- **VFW #STILLSERVING Grant** - offers offsets incurred for community service projects – this is open to Post, Districts and Auxiliaries.
- **Uniting for Veterans Grant** - a limited matching grant available to Posts and Auxiliaries for monetary, food, or item donations to local food banks, pantries or homeless relief organizations in their communities.

Student Veteran Support Grant

Available for supporting student veteran events. VFW Post and Departments are eligible to submit applications. Focusing on campuses with veteran student population.

Other ways to donate and keep Serving America's Heroes

- **Disaster Relief Fund** helps service members, veterans and families that are impacted by a natural disaster. Creates opportunity for immediate relief efforts.
- **Uniting to Combat Hunger (UTCH)** VFW and Humana teamed up to address food insecurities across America, focusing on the military community. We are making a positive change in the shortages and homelessness. Collaborating with Volunteers of America.
- **Deborah Sampson Act** – this act was passed with the help of VFW and Auxiliary efforts improving Women Veterans VA Programs and health services. It is with an expansion of the Call Center for Women Veterans, specified for their needs and health services.
- **VFW Mental Wellness Campaign** – provides education for members, veterans and communities helping with prevention and proper knowledge.
- **PA Women Veterans Retreat** – provides networking and resources available for all female veterans through a yearly conference.

DONATIONS CAN BE MADE ONLINE OR BY MAIL:

Online: [vfw.org/ways-to-help](https://www.vfw.org/ways-to-help) , select the program you wish to donate to & click **CONTRIBUTE**.

Mailed Donations can be sent to:

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Attn: Processing Center

P.O. Box 2002

Milford, NH 03055-2002

<https://www.vfw.org/donate/your-support-matters>.

Other Links and Resources ~ More Information

www.vfw.org/assistance

foundation@vfw.org

www.vfw.org/community

www.womenshealth.va.gov

NATIONAL AWARDS ~ VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT

1. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for most outstanding promotion of VFW resources for veterans, service members and their families.
 2. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for most outstanding activity and/or event promoting resources, including those for PTS, and assistance for veterans and their families (resource fairs, mental health clinics, etc.)
- Entry form (required) available on MALTA Member Resources or at vfwauxpa.org
 - Auxiliary must send entry form to the Department Chairman by March 31, 2027.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary account after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS – VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT

1. Citation to one VFW Auxiliary in each membership division for most outstanding promotion of Mental Health Awareness Resources for veterans, service members and their families.
2. Citation to one VFW Auxiliary in each membership division for most outstanding promotion of Women Veterans Resources, Call Center and Healthcare.

*"Sticks in a bundle are unbreakable."
"Collective strength is the cornerstone of victory."*

"NO ONE WINS ALONE"

