



Veterans and Family Support



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DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S THEME:

“One Family One Voice! One Team!”



2024
2025

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S THEME:

“From Our Roots to Our Branches...
Extending Service to Our Veterans”

This year, ***From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans***, will be our theme as we execute our mission of supporting our Veterans, their families, and our communities. The Veterans & Family Support (V&FS) Program is the primary mission of why our Auxiliary exists. The **goals** this year under the V&FS program will focus on: National Veterans Service Suicide Prevention; Childcare for active-duty service members; and sharing information about the Veterans and Military Support Programs. Together, our focus this year is to ***Keep Moving Forward!***

Goal #1- National Veterans Suicide Prevention: Many veterans returning home do so with heavy hearts and minds. It's crucial that we, as an organization, take a stand against the stigma of mental health. Often things we don't think could ever be hurtful cut the deepest. Be mindful of the characteristics associated with thoughts of suicide and be watchful of our veterans' mental health. One veteran lost to suicide, is one veteran too many!



Goal #2 - Childcare for Active-Duty Service Members: As we serve diligently toward our mission of serving veterans, we often overlook those the veterans support themselves - their children. A special focus on this year's Veterans & Family Support Program is giving back to these families. Maybe it's babysitting for a few hours each week, providing diapers for the babies and toddlers or maybe just being emotional support for the spouse left behind to take care of the family. By being a confidant for service member's family, our members are providing that much more peace for our active-duty military.

Goal #3 - Veterans and Military Support Programs: It is our responsibility to ensure that our Veterans and their family members are aware of the aid available to them in times of need, such as financial assistance with mortgage or rent payments, vehicle expenses, utilities, food or clothing. Now more than ever, we need to guide our veterans and their family members in their efforts to obtain their VA benefits by pairing them with our VFW Accredited service officers. As Auxiliary members, it's important that we educate ourselves about Veterans benefits as well. Auxiliaries are encouraged to meet with VFW accredited service officers to get a better understanding of how they can help, or perhaps even invite one to an Auxiliary meeting. As Auxiliary members, we can help provide the comforts of home when we adopt units and send care packages to our deployed troops. While it's important to remember those serving far away, it is equally important to remember them and their families prior to and post deployment. The VFW has financial grants that are available to Help with events held by our Auxiliary and Post to support & recognize our troops

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