



VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

Building Bridges for our Veterans

MILITARY FAMILY APPRECIATION MONTH

November is Military Family Appreciation Month — a time to honor the strength, sacrifice, and resilience of the families who stand behind our service members and veterans. The VFW Auxiliary proudly joins the nation in recognizing these unsung heroes whose love and support are essential to our military's success.

Behind every soldier, sailor, airman, Marine, and Coast Guardsman is a family that endures long separations, relocations, and uncertainty with courage and grace. The VFW and the VFW Auxiliary understand these challenges and work year-round to provide programs, resources, and community support that make a difference. From organizing care packages and family events to offering scholarships and connecting military spouses with local services, the Auxiliary ensures military families feel appreciated and supported.

This November, the VFW Auxiliary encourages everyone to express gratitude to military families in their communities. A simple act of kindness or a heartfelt **"thank you"** can mean the world to those who give so much. As we head into the holiday season, let us remember that freedom is not only protected by those in uniform, but also sustained by the families who serve beside them in spirit. Together, we honor their service, sacrifice, and unwavering love.



Approved by:
Dept. President
Mike Yates



VFW SERVICE OFFICERS

Veterans in our community come from all walks of life, but all deserve their well earned benefits. Knowing who your local service officers are and how to put a Veteran in contact with them is key to building the bridge to support our Veterans!



Ryan M. Harris
Program Chair
Ryan.Harris.CISA@gmail.com



LATEST NEWS

GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN AND VETERANS SUPPORT

Due to the magnitude of the government shutdown, **the VFW Unmet Needs program is unable to temporarily provide assistance due to non-payment of salary** as it is not a military pay error. Once the government is reopened, the VFW looks forward to once again serving Veterans in need.

Some banks and credit unions are offering low or no interest short term loans for Active Military and their families. If you know someone in need, please have them check with their local banker until financial support is once again available.

SUPPORT SPOTLIGHT: VFW FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR SERVICE MEMBERS

The VFW Financial Assistance for Service Members program is a resource dedicated to helping active-duty military personnel and their families during times of unexpected financial hardship. Through the **VFW's Unmet Needs** program, eligible service members, veterans, and their immediate families can receive financial grants—not loans— of up to \$2500 to cover essential expenses such as rent, mortgage payments, utilities, vehicle repairs, and basic living costs.

Since its creation, this program has provided millions of dollars in direct aid to military families facing difficult situations brought on by deployment, injury, or unforeseen emergencies. Each grant is paid directly to the creditor to ensure immediate and effective relief, easing the stress on families who already bear the burden of service to our nation.

Eligibility and application information is online at www.vfw.org/assistance/financial-grants or by calling 866-789-6333

VETERANS DAY AND VETERANS MENTAL HEALTH

Veterans Day on November 11th honors the brave men and women who have served our nation with courage and dedication. As we express our gratitude, it's vital to remember that some veterans continue to face invisible battles. The Veterans Crisis Line—**dial 988 and press 1**—offers confidential, 24/7 support for veterans and their loved ones. This Veterans Day, let's thank those who served and ensure every veteran knows help and hope are always within reach.

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