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“Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Program
Department of Maryland
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“Buddy”® Poppy

Now is the time to start thinking about your “Buddy”® Poppy Display for our 2025 Department Convention. The use of “Buddy”® Poppies is important to our Veterans. The “Buddy”® Poppy program supports our VFW National Home, along with the National and Department Service Fund. For more information, log in to MALTA to learn the rules and regulations.

Are you Ready, Get Set, Go!

- Choose a desirable category.
- Read all pertinent information.
- Don't forget at least one of the poppies must be in its original form and color with label attached.

Did you know that Departments who purchase over 250,000 poppies are allowed 2 displays in each of the (3) categories for the National Display Contest? Most important – Have fun with your project!

Continue to promote this mighty little flower for our Veterans both past and present. It is our way to let them know that their service has not been forgotten. There are many ways to use our memorial flower to show we care.

- Educate your members and community about our “Buddy”® Poppy Program on Facebook using FaceBook Live.
- Do a “Buddy” Check on your Post and Auxiliary Members. Write them a note and include a “Buddy”® Poppy in the card.
- School will be in session in a few weeks. When you are donating a backpack with school supplies, decorate it with our Mighty Little Red Flower”. Include a “Buddy”® Poppy Story Card inside to educate our youth. [Buddy Poppy Story Card Link](#)

The more we use our memorial flower, the more our members and community will best understand what this flower represents and how it supports our Veterans. Have you ever wondered why you are asked to purchase poppies every year? The reason is the “Why” we participate in all our National Programs. The “Why” is our Veterans and their families. If you have an abundance of “Buddy”® Poppies on hand, your auxiliary needs to find ways to distribute and use your “Buddy”® Poppies in everything you do. It's not just about the inventory of poppies we have. It's about supporting a program that is very special to our Veterans. When you are ready to hold a “Buddy”® Poppy drive, be sure you order your Poppies from your VFW Post; if the Post will not order them for you, don't hesitate to get in touch with your VFW Department headquarters. Be sure to allow four weeks for delivery. There are now two options for the “Buddy”® Poppies: the traditional “Buddy”® Poppy and the new metal “Buddy”® Poppy. This new metal Poppy is excellent for a collar or suit jacket. Each “Buddy”® Poppy purchased by a Department for distribution contributes to the following: • One (1) cent goes to the VFW National Home • One (1) cent goes to the VFW National Headquarters Veterans Service Fund • One and a half (1.5) cent goes to the Department's Veterans Service Fund. **Be a “BUDDY” to our Veterans and their Families!**



VFW NATIONAL HOME

Say What? Have you noticed that our National Treasure has changed its name? Formerly known as VFW National Home for Children is now called VFW National Home. To be honest, I never knew until I was informed by our National Ambassador. It will take time to get used to, the same way it took all of us to drop “Ladies” from our great organization’s name.

Please promote in your communications to your members that there are needs at the National Home. Donations to the “As Needed Fund” can be used as deemed fit by the staff of the National Home. There is a National Home wish list on the Amazon web page:

[VFW National Home Amazon Wish List Link](#)

Please see the following page for instructions on how to purchase items from the Wish List.

By now your Auxiliary has had at least one regularly scheduled meeting. Did you vote to send in your Health and Happiness donation? We ask for 10 cents per member, more if you can spare. There are many ways to donate to our National Home for Children. These heroes and their families depend on us for our support.

Other ways to donate to our National Home for Children:

- Purchase Tribute Bricks for your Auxiliary, Post, self or for your family.
- Purchase items for Tribute Park e.g. Live Tribute-trees, Stone benches, Flagstones, etc.
- Sign up for monthly giving and support the Maryland House.
- Become a Life Member or a Centennial Life Member.
- Have monthly National Home Life Membership raffles for your members or at your fundraising events. Any individual or organization wishing to support the National Home’s mission can become an Associate Life Member. Associate Life Members do not have voting privileges.

“One Child, One Teacher, One Pen can change the World” ~ Malala Yousafzai

It’s that time of year again. You may also consider making a donation for school supplies to our National Home children. Earmark your check “School Supplies”.

With the heat of summer, it is hard to think about Christmastime. As of August 1st, Christmas is 20 weeks and 6 days. **YIKES!** Donate items to Santa’s Shop. Santa’s Shop is a store where resident children can shop for Christmas gifts and experience the joy of giving. Overflow items are used for birthdays, special events and an incentive closet.

Visit <https://www.vfwnationalhome.org/donate> for more information on how to donate to our national treasure.





VFW NATIONAL HOME

Amazon Wish List Instructions

Thank you for your kind hearts. Your donation of in-kind gifts goes a long way toward supporting the military and veteran families that live at the VFW National Home.

1. Please look over our Amazon Wish List.
2. Select a gift and add to your cart.
3. Check the “This is a Gift” box located above “Proceed to Checkout” button.
4. If you wish to purchase more than one item for the National Home, make sure to complete steps 2 and 3 for each gift.
5. When you are finished adding items, click “View Cart” to ensure your selected items and quantities are correct.
6. If correct, proceed to checkout.
7. In the “Other Addresses” section, be sure to choose “VFW National Home Gift Registry Address” for “Use this address”.
8. ****Important****: Do not check the gift bag/box option in the “Gift options” section.
9. Please ensure “Gift Receipt” box is checked in the “Gift Options” section.
10. ****Important****: In “Gift Message,” please include your name, address, email address, and phone number so we know who this gift is from if you would like the National Home to send a gift receipt.
11. Click “Save Gift Options.”
12. Choose payment method and place order