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**“Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Program**  
**Department of Maryland**  
**November 2024**

**Program Goals**

*“Buddy”® Poppy Education/Outreach*  
*National “Buddy”® Poppy Display Contest*  
*VFW National Home Education and Community Outreach*

**“Buddy-Giving”**

“Buddy-Giving” is a twist on Thanksgiving. A time of giving and thankfulness. We honor our Veterans not just on Veterans Day but every day. What better way than to share a “Buddy”® Poppy with a Veteran. Our memorial flower brings a sense of comfort to veterans and their families; they know they are not forgotten. A great time to “Buddy-Give” is at your Veterans Day events. “Buddy-Giving” should be incorporated into every program. Distribution is so important to our mission and to “Honor the Dead by Helping the Living”.

**Ways to use your “Buddy”® Poppies in every National Program**

**Americanism**— Hand out flags wrapped with poppies at your Veterans Day and November Events.

**Auxiliary Outreach**—“Buddy Up” with local food banks or charities to volunteer distributing Thanksgiving meals. Include “Buddy”® Poppies with their food distributions.

**Historian/Media Relations**—Veterans Day is a great opportunity to promote your Auxiliary on Social media. Make sure you include pictures of the distribution of poppies.

**Hospital**—Send Veterans Day Cards to hospitalized Veterans. Be sure to include a “Buddy”® Poppy so they know we have not forgotten them.

**Legislative**—Invite your elective officials to attend your Veterans Day event. Present them with a corsage or boutonniere that includes “Buddy”® Poppies.

**Membership**— Veterans Day events are a creative tool to recruit new members. This is a great time to do a “Buddy”® Poppy Drive.

**Scholarships**—Now is the time to promote your Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. Post flyers on local bulletin boards with “Buddy”® Poppies.

**Veterans & Family Support**—Send Thank You Cards to your Post Members recognizing them for their service and include a Poppy.

**Youth Activities**—Include your local youth groups such as scouts and young marines at your Veterans Day events. A token of appreciation to them should include a “Buddy”® Poppy. You can also include them in all your projects mentioned above.





# VFW NATIONAL HOME

## Santa's Shoppe

It is hard to think of the December holidays since we have not celebrated Thanksgiving. Now is the time to donate to our National Home Santa Shoppe. Santa's Shoppe is where children can shop for Christmas gifts and experience the joy of giving. The National Home stocks gifts appropriate for all ages; children may shop for moms, dads, grandmas, grandpas, big brothers, little sisters, best friends, and other special people. To help with Santa's Shop, donate new items appropriate for all ages, but especially for adults or make a cash donation. Overflow of generous gifts to the Santa Shop will also be available to the children for birthdays, special events, and an incentive closet. When mailing packages or making a delivery, please indicate your gift is for Santa's Shop.

Gifts can be delivered to:

*VFW National Home*

*3573 S. Waverly Road Eaton Rapids MI 48827*

Please call 866-483-9642 with questions.

## Family Support Services

As a non-profit, 100% privately funded entity, the National Home relies on support from individuals and organizations to fulfill its mission. Therefore, your gift to the Family Support Services Fund will help them continue to provide much-needed services such as professional counseling, tutoring, parenting classes, employment services, and other services that our military and veteran families need. The Family Support Services Fund is the foundation of their mission, enabling the support needed for the life-changing opportunities families can receive while living at the National Home.

## Become a "Home Front Hero"

Home Front Heroes take a leading role in our mission by pledging to make a recurring monthly contribution to the National Home. They are the front line of support, helping provide a steady, source funding for essential programs and services. For more information please visit:

Home Front Hero - [Home Front Hero - VFW National Home](#)

## Health & Happiness Fund

Be sure to vote on your donation to Health & Happiness. Donations can be made on MALTA by your treasurer. To donate by mail, send a check earmarked Health & Happiness to:

*VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters*

*Attn: Health & Happiness Donations*

*406 W. 34th Street, 10th Floor Kansas City, MO 64111*

The MD House & National Home Kitchen Fund needs your support as well.

Earmark & send these donations to our Department Treasurer:

*Jackie Kimball, PDP*

*Treasurer, VFWA Dept. of MD*

*1019 Queen Avenue Salisbury MD 21801*

