

# Department of Maryland VFW Auxiliary Veterans & Family Support September 2025

### **Veterans Crisis Hotline**

#### What is it?

- Assistance for veterans, service members, National Guard and reserve members, as well as those who support them.
- It is available 24/7. That means that someone is available every day, at any time of the day or night to offer support for our veterans.
- Access to help via the Veterans Crisis Hotline is available via phone calls, text and chats.
- It is 100% Free and Confidential
- Printable Resources are available via this link www.veteranscrisisline.net









You and/or your auxiliary can purchase the teardrop pin from the VFW Store. They are \$3.25 each.

The product code # is 01724. You can purchase them online www.vfwstore.org, via mail or by calling 1-833-VFW-VET (1-833-839-8387).





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Did you know that September is recognized as National Service Dog Month?

Established in 2009, this special observance is celebrated on September 20th each year. National Service Dog Month shines a spotlight on the immense value service dogs bring to veterans, raising awareness of the vital roles these incredible animal's fill.

It is a time to honor the service dogs who support veterans living with PTSD, vision impairment, and various other medical and social challenges. These highly trained animals work alongside individuals with medical conditions, offering both assistance and therapeutic support. Thanks to their specialized training, service dogs are granted special legal protections that allow them and their handlers to access places where pets or comfort animals might not be permitted.

It's important to note that service dogs are different from untrained comfort animals or household pets. Although pets, comfort animals, and service dogs all offer valuable benefits to their owners, only service dogs have special legal protections. These protections allow service dogs, and their handlers access to places where most pets and even some comfort animals are not allowed.



Are you wondering how your auxiliary can support/celebrate National Service Dog Day/Month?

- 1. Find a way to donate to a non-profit organization that trains or assists veterans looking for service animals.
- 2. Ask a veteran who has a service animal what you can do to show your appreciation to him/her and their service animal
- 3. Create posts and share them on your social media pages.





# JUST FOR FUN



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## Find the Following National Service Dog Month Words!

Words can be up, down, and diagonal

Fifty
Advocate
Apply
Volunteer

September Pull Vest Service Facility Therapy DogFest Toothbrush Nose Labrador







