



VFW Auxiliary to the Department of Maryland
Buddy Poppy & National Home Program
2025-2026 Chairman
Karen D Rooker, PDP
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November 2025

Congratulations to our very own Sandi Kriebel! Even though she will be missing the Eastern Conference for the very first time, she has a good reason. She will be installed as the President of the Board of Directors at the VFW National Home on October 25, 2025. If you have ever had a chance to talk with Sandi, you know that the National Home is near and dear to her heart. She is super enthusiastic about everything going on at the campus and all of the upcoming projects, especially the renovation of the kitchen at the Maryland Cottage. The estimate for those renovations is \$61,000.00. This is President Siperek's Special Project this year so let's get those donations rolling in! Send your report to the Special Project Chairman, Mary Cardinal-Vogt and send the money to the Department Treasurer, Jackie Kimball. Make sure to earmark the donation for the Maryland Cottage Kitchen Renovation.

With this mailing is a list of Fund Donation "wishes" for the National Home. The list is quite extensive, but every little bit helps. These donations should be sent directly to the National Home at the address on the flyer. Remember to earmark it for the fund you want to donate to and remember to send me a report.

Get your National Home Life Membership before December 31st! Starting January 1st the cost of a National Home Life membership doubles to \$100.00. This is a great way to thank your loyal members by purchasing their National Home Life Memberships if your Auxiliary can. (Again, don't forget to send me a report!!)

November is a great month for Buddy Poppy usage. Take them to the cemetery on the 11th and pass them out at the Veterans Day ceremony. If your Post/Auxiliary is having a breakfast or lunch on the 11th, wrap the utensils with them, make centerpieces with them, the uses are endless at this time of year! Don't forget about good old-fashioned Poppy drives. Check with your local stores to see if you can set up a booth to pass out the poppies and information pertaining to the Auxiliary, you might just get a new member out of it. (Have I reminded you enough to send me a report?)

Thank you for all you do for our Veterans. I wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving – gobble 'til ya wobble!



VFW National Home

Donation Fund List

Where Needed Most

“Where Needed Most” tops the list of funds needing donations because these unrestricted gifts provide the National Home with the greatest flexibility. These gifts will be used for whatever is needed most at the time. They ensure we can continue to provide professional counseling, tutoring, health care, licensed childcare and other support services to the families and their children living at the National Home.

Campus Maintenance Fund

This fund covers all expenses associated with operating and maintaining the facilities and grounds (except for sponsored buildings and houses).

Early Education Center Fund – (Daycare/Preschool)

Your donation to this fund will help pay for the expenses associated with operating our licensed daycare/preschool EEC (Early Education Center) not covered by sponsorship.

Technology Fund Your donation to the Technology Fund will help pay for technology needs on campus. High speed internet service is needed for the Veterans and their children of school age.

Activity Fund

This fund covers all expenses associated with recreational activities such as 4H, recreation, camps, music lessons and much more.

Education Fund

This fund covers all expenses associated with education, training and mentoring of residents. This includes tutoring, life skills, computer and science labs, library, parenting skills, community service and more.

Transportation Fund

Your donation to the Transportation Fund helps with costs associated with maintaining a fleet of vehicles.

Family Support Services Fund

All expenses related to the Veterans & Family Resource Manager program. This is a new program developed to better assist our Veterans on and off campus. The Veterans & Family Resource Center has been established and is now up and running successfully and effectively.

Donation sent to
VFW National Home
3573 S. Waverly Road
Eaton Rapids, Michigan 48827

"Buddy® Poppy" & VFW National Home



2025 - 2026 Report Form

Karen Rooker, PDP Dept. Chairman

6502 Randolph Road

Morningside, MD 20746

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Auxiliary _____ District _____ Chairman _____ Contact info _____

Report Period: From _____ To _____

This month - Hours _____ Projects Cost \$ _____ Mileage _____ Volunteers # _____

"Buddy® Poppy"

Did you host a "Buddy"® Poppy drive with your Post in this reporting period? _____ Yes _____ No

Number of VFW "Buddy"® Poppies that were distributed. # _____

Are you participating in the "Buddy"® Poppy Display Contest at Convention? _____ Yes _____ No

VFW National Home for Children

Did you promote the National Home through education? Within the Post/Auxiliary _____ In the community _____

Did you promote the National Home Helpline? Within the Post/Auxiliary _____ In the community _____

Made donation to National Home Maryland House (NOT for kitchen) \$ _____ Health & Happiness \$ _____

Made donation to National Home (NOT Health & Happiness)	\$ _____	Date: _____
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Did you purchase a National Home Life Membership for an Auxiliary Member this reporting period? How many? _____

Did you purchase a National Home Tribute Brick this reporting period? How many? _____

Other Buddy Poppy or VFW National Home for Children projects/activities? Briefly explain