


# Department of Maryland VFW Auxiliary

## Veterans & Family Support

### February 2025

Greetings VFW Auxiliary Family,

I hope this promotional mailer finds you well and enjoying the fresh start of a brand-new year!

I am beyond excited to let you all know that the Department of Maryland VFW Auxiliary is  reported in the Veterans and Family Support Program! That does not mean we stop working; that means we work harder!

With that being said, as we move into February, how are you channeling the wisdom of the Jedi to keep best serve our veterans? Are you using the glasses of Maz Kanata to help you handle whatever the galaxy throws your way? In the true spirit of our Department President's theme, be A Force for Veterans, let's surround our veterans with the brightest stars and use our laser beams to conquer any challenges. Let's finish the rest of the year SUPER STRONG!



I love what our National Veterans & Family Support Ambassador Annie O'Connor said in her last mailing "As the festive holiday cheer gives way to the colder, quieter winter months, it's easy to feel a bit of a chill not just in the air, but also in our spirits. However, we are here to WARM hearts, SUPPORT veterans and UPLIFT families and service members during this time of year."

Ways to do this include:

- organizing potluck dinners and food drives to help families after the holidays. "Eating together not only nourishes the soul but also strengthens the bonds of friendship and camaraderie."
- Bring veterans and families together to host a Valentines or Easter Party or dance in their honor. Nothing brings a community together more than food and fun. Have a game zone within these events – everyone loves a bit of friendly competition.
- Host warm clothing drives – we all have items in our closets that are just taking up space. I know I do – how about you? Be honest! Do a clothing drive along with the food drive.
- Make sure to have plenty of resource rack cards and military crisis cards available for veterans and their families to take with them. Make sure this information visible to all.





## **STAMPS FOR THE WOUNDED (SFTW)**

Please use the following address to ship stamps:

**VIA United States Postal Service (USPS)** is the preferred method.

STAMPS FOR THE WOUNDED  
PO BOX 297, DUNN LORING VA 22027-0297

**VIA Fed Ex, UPS, DHL**, please use: STAMPS FOR THE WOUNDED  
2302 GALLOWS ROAD #297, DUNN LORING VA 22027

All donations will be acknowledged; however, it may take as long as eight weeks to receive the acknowledgement. If your auxiliary does not need the acknowledgement, please include "NO ACK NEEDED" above your name on the return address or include a note inside of the package. Do your best to leave about 1 inch around the stamp so the veterans have room to work around the stamp.

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Here are a couple of reminders/deadlines to keep in mind:

1. Entries for the National Veterans & Family Support Program Award #1 are due to me no later than **31 March 2026**. The form is attached to this mailer.
2. The program year ends on **15 April 2026**.
3. **All reports must be sent to me via email or postmarked no later than 30 April 2026 to be included in the running for the convention awards.**



**VaNette Jones - Dept. of MD**

Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary  
Veterans & Family Support Program



PO Box 558  
Fruitland, MD 21826-0558  
BeAVeteransPal@comcast.net  
(667) 221-2199



## RESOURCES FOR VETERANS, ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

### **Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)**

816-756-3390

[vfw.org](http://vfw.org)

### **Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary (VFW Auxiliary)**

816-561-8655

[vfwauxiliary.org](http://vfwauxiliary.org)

### **VFW National Home Military & Veteran Family Helpline**

800-313-4200

[vfwnationalhome.org/get-help](http://vfwnationalhome.org/get-help)

### **Veterans Crisis Line**

Dial 988 then Press 1 or Text 838255

[veteranscrisisline.net](http://veteranscrisisline.net)

### **Military OneSource**

800-342-9647

[militaryonesource.mil](http://militaryonesource.mil)

### **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Benefit Line: 800-827-1000**

[va.gov](http://va.gov)

**Military.com**

[www.military.com](http://www.military.com)

**TRICARE®**

[www.tricare.mil](http://www.tricare.mil)

**Veterans Employment  
and Training Service**

866-4-USA-DOL  
(866-487-2365)  
[dol.gov/vets](http://dol.gov/vets)

**Assistance for  
Homeless Veterans**

877-4AID-VET  
(877-424-3838)  
[va.gov/homeless](http://va.gov/homeless)

**Center for Women  
Veterans**

855-VA-WOMEN  
(855-829-6636)  
[va.gov/womenvet](http://va.gov/womenvet)

**VA Caregiver Support Line**

855-260-3274  
[caregiver.va.gov](http://caregiver.va.gov)

**Military Connection**

[militaryconnection.com](http://militaryconnection.com)

**Make the Connection**

[maketheconnection.net](http://maketheconnection.net)

**National Military  
Family Association**

703-931-6632  
[militaryfamily.org](http://militaryfamily.org)

**National Alliance of  
Families POW-MIA**

[nationalalliance.org](http://nationalalliance.org)

**National Suicide  
Prevention Hotline**

988 or 800-273-8255  
[988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org)

**National Domestic  
Violence Hotline**

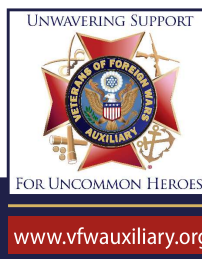
800-799-7233  
[thehotline.org](http://thehotline.org)

**Childhelp National  
Child Abuse Hotline**

(800-422-4453)  
[childhelphotline.org](http://childhelphotline.org)

**Children-Youth-Teens**

[militaryonesource.mil/  
parenting/children-youth-  
teens/](http://militaryonesource.mil/parenting/children-youth-teens/)





# Veterans & Family Support

## National Program Awards

### 2025-2026 Entry Form

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#### Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event to celebrate/assist service members and/or veterans in the community. To include veterans job fairs, unit homecomings, mental health-related stand downs, etc.
- Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event to celebrate/assist service members and/or veterans in the community.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

**VFW Auxiliaries must send this completed entry form to the  
Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman by  
March 31, 2026 for judging.**

VFW Auxiliary Name: \_\_\_\_\_

VFW Auxiliary No: \_\_\_\_\_ Department of: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the activity and/or event that celebrated/assisted service members and/or veterans in the community. (e.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

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The Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to National Veterans & Family Support Ambassador Annie O'Connor by April 30, 2026 for judging.

Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Forms sent to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will not be processed or forwarded.*