



VFW AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND
VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM
FRANCINE CORNISH
DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN 2026-2027

Promotional Report October 2026

Preparing for Disaster, Showing Up for Each Other.

Disasters Do Not Send Invitations

Wildfire does not wait for a convenient weekend, and an earthquake gives no warning at all. What separates chaos from resilience is preparation, and what separates survival from recovery is the willingness to help others once disaster hits. These two ideas work as one.

Preparation means having a plan before the crisis, not during it. A stocked emergency kit, a family communication plan, and a clear understanding of local risks turn panic into action. Communities that drill and plan recover faster and lose fewer lives than those that improvise from scratch.

But no household is an island in a large-scale disaster. Neighbors lose power together. Towns lose clean water together. The earliest, most consequential help often comes not from official responders but from people nearby who chose to act, clearing roads, checking on the elderly, sharing supplies.

THE VFW FOUNDATION-The Official Charity of the VFW

Recovery Starts with Neighbors Who Are Already There



When disaster sticks, local VFW posts respond fast, and the VFW Foundation funds the relief the help veterans and military need to recover.

The VFW Foundation provides emergency grants to veterans and their families for disaster-related costs, including temporary housing, essential supplies, and home repairs.

DONATE NOW. (<https://heroes.vfw.org>)

Other Organizations That Can Help

Ready.gov: For more information to help you be prepared, see the attached flyer

American Red Cross (www.redcross.org) Stay prepared for emergencies, volunteer and fundraise

Please continue to send your reports of all your good works! I need to know!

Thank You. Francine Cornish fcornish@comcast.net

PREPARING MAKES SENSE

How well you and your family prepare for a disaster before it happens impacts how quickly you recover.



KNOW YOUR RISK

Prepare for the risks where you live.

Visit **FEMA.gov** where you can input your location to get information about disasters in your area.

Visit **Ready.gov** to know how to prepare for disasters and what to do during an emergency.

Download the **FEMA mobile App** to receive real-time weather and emergency alerts, locate shelters, send notifications to loved ones and more.



MAKE A PLAN

Prepare yourself and your family before disaster strikes.

Consider the **specific needs of your household** like medical needs or items for your pets.

Practice your family's plan.

Visit **Ready.gov/plan** and use our template to create a Family Emergency Plan you can email to yourself.



ready.gov/plan



TAKE ACTION

Be ready to respond to and recover from a disaster.

Gather supplies that fit your family's needs.

Secure important documents.

Understand your **insurance coverage.**

Participate in community disaster preparedness events.



Go to **Ready.gov** for more information to help you be prepared!