



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Veterans & Family Support Bulletin - August/September 2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Veterans and Family Support-Michigan

National Theme: *From Our Roots to Our Branches: Extending Service to Our Veterans*
Department Theme: *Aspire to Inspire*

Camp Trotter Family Day: August 19

I hope all of my Auxiliary brothers and sisters have had a chance to get out and enjoy our Michigan summer that will be coming to an end soon. Add Camp Trotter Family Day to your calendar. Grab your veteran and join us for some fun and fellowship.

Reporting: Great job from the Auxiliaries that successfully reported in the first quarter. Our second reporting quarter is August 1 thru October 31. Everything that we do for veterans is reportable under Veterans & Family Support. When reporting, please be descriptive of what the money was donated for and how you came to your hours donated. Remember, when giving a veteran or family member a ride to the store, appointments, or any reason to include mileage if the veteran or family member didn't flip the bill. If you need help reporting and don't have access to a computer, smart phone, internet or just don't like technology, I will gladly report for you if you send your reports to my address listed. I will also accept phone calls, texts and emails.

Good Fundraising and Donation Ideas:

Heroes to Hives- This program helps recently discharged military or veterans who suffer from Post Traumatic Syndrome Disorder or other mental health issues through beekeeping. Go to vfwmi.org > resources> down to more resources > Heroes to Hives for more information.

Fisher House- Fisher House is a home away from home for veterans and their families who have traveled long distances or are at a VA Hospital for an extended period of time. Fisher House offers a safe, comfortable place for the veteran and family to stay during their VA visit. Go to fisherhousemichigan.org for more information.

Back to School Supplies- Many military and veterans' families could use some help this coming school year. Try having a School Supply Drive or Collection at your Post Home; it is a great way to help start off the school year for the kids.

Report, report, and report.

Patriot's Day - September 11

Prisoner of War/Missing in Action recognition Day- September 20

Honor Flights- If you have not heard of or helped with an Honor Flight by now, you will because this year it is our responsibility to do so. Michigan has three Honor Flights that really do an excellent job of honoring our veterans by flying them round trip, to Washington D.C. free of charge. Every veteran is treated like they deserve to be on this trip and every veteran who makes the trip is so gratefully glad that they did so. This program needs donations to keep going for future passengers. Most veterans also need a guardian to accompany them; and unfortunately, the Honor Flight does not pay for the guardian's trip. Also, the veteran's spouse is not eligible to be a guardian. Please if you haven't already, start fundraising for this once in a lifetime opportunity for our veterans. There is a waiting list and applications for both veterans and guardians that need to be filled out.



To donate or for applications and flight dates, here are the three Honor Flight websites:

talonsouthonorflight.org

midmichiganhonorflight.org

upperpeninsulahonorflight.org

Besides looking at your bulletins, try to review your Veterans & Family Support Goal Sheet; this is where your achievement goals are. Ask your treasurer for a copy of their Treasurer's report; this is where you can find some good stuff to report under direct aid and other goals.

Oh, and in case I forget, remember to:

Report, report and report!

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