



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Veterans & Family Support Bulletin December 2024/January 2025

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*

December 7	Pearl Harbor Day
December 13	National Guard Birthday
December 14	National Wreaths Across America Day
December 20	Space Force Birthday

Operation Bottom Cover

I am starting to receive reports from Auxiliaries that are helping with the National VFW Auxiliary President's special project, **Operation Bottom Cover; great job!** If you or your Auxiliary has not contributed to this important project yet, here are a couple of easy ways that you can help:

1. Donate directly on MALTA under gifts or mail a check to National Headquarters earmarked "NP special project".
2. Your Auxiliary can donate directly (with diapers, wipes, or a check earmarked O.B.C.) to a veteran or military family with this need in your area.

Report what you do!

Fisher House of Michigan

Our own Department of Michigan VFW Auxiliary President Jane Dady, needs our help with her special project, **Fisher House**. Fisher House is a home away from home for veterans and their families who have a long distance to travel when receiving care at a VA Hospital. There is never a charge for the veteran or family member(s) to stay. Michigan has a Fisher House in Ann Arbor and in the near future, another Fisher House will be opening in Detroit. **Please visit** <http://www.fisherhousemichigan.org> to learn more or send a donation directly to:

Fisher House Michigan
PO Box 130
Ann Arbor, Michigan 48113

Charity Starts at Home

Please remember your own Post veterans and Auxiliary family this holiday season. Some of your members may need help paying their membership dues; be a **Dues Angel**. If you know of anyone who could use help with food, snow removal, a ride to the store, financial assistance for any reason, or just another person to talk to, please try to help. Also, our members who are hospitalized or in a care facility, always appreciate outside contact.

Auxiliary members have been doing an awesome job at reporting this type of direct aid, thank you!

January 20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

January 20 Inauguration Day

VFW Veterans and Military Support Programs

Do you or someone you know, have a family member who is currently serving in the military, reserves, has recently or will in the near future, be discharged? If so, there are so many resources that can help our military and veterans.

One resource is called the **Military Assistance Program or MAP**. MAP provides financial assistance for Posts, Districts, and Departments to sponsor morale-boosting send offs, homecomings and casual get togethers. Posts or Auxiliaries that participate in Adopt-a-Unit can also receive assistance. MAP keeps care packages circulating by covering the postage costs. **To apply for MAP funds, contact VFW Veterans & Military Support office at 816-756-3390.**

Department of Defense Military One Source- Military One Source is a 24/7 resource for military members to reach their goals, overcome challenges, and thrive. For much more information go to www.militaryonesource.mil

Unmet Needs- This special VFW program for Military, Veterans and their Families comes in handy for helping with those necessary bills that are sometimes hard to cover with grants for up to \$1,500 for things like:

- **Mortgage or Rent**
- **Car repairs**
- **Insurance**
- **Utilities**
- **Food**
- **Clothing**

Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness

Promoting Veteran and Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health is one of our Veteran & Family Support goals this year. Auxiliary members have been doing a good job at promoting this by posting on social media the **988 press 1, text message to 838255**, and other resources. Here are a few more resources that you can promote by sharing and reporting:

- vfw.org/assistance/mental-wellness
- changedirection.org
- giveanhour.org
- healvets.org
- onemind.org

Keep up the great job of reporting. Everything we do for our veterans and families is reportable. Please contact me if you haven't reported yet, so I can help.

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