



## Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Veterans & Family Support – August/September 2025

[www.vfwauxmi.org](http://www.vfwauxmi.org)

Facebook Page: Veterans and Family Support-Michigan

**National Theme: *From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free***

**Department Theme: *We Don't Know Them All, But We Owe Them All***

### **Blue Star Service Dogs:**

As you may know our Department President always has a personal pin that sells for \$2 each. The president gets to choose their special project for the year to donate all monies from those pins to during their year. Madam President Scheetz has chosen the Blue Star Service Dogs and it was recently announced that Commander Yahnka will team up and donate there as well.



Blue Star Service Dogs rescues shelter dogs, trains them and then pairs them with a Veteran. Once paired with a Veteran, the training continues. Teaching the Veteran how to work with their dog and their dog how to support their Veteran. This program is a win-win for everyone!

Keep an eye on our Facebook page for all of the ways you can support them. We want to make the biggest impact here possible!

### **Adopt-A-Unit**

Now is the time to start thinking about adopting-a-unit. Starting now will give you the time you need to collect items you'd like to send to those who need it most during this program year. You can visit <https://www.vfw.org/community/troop-support> and review the files on the right side of the page.

This will help you find a unit, apply to support them, access the FAQ page and contact information if your questions aren't answered there. Adopting-a-unit allows you to support them before, during and after their deployment.

#### Activity ideas for adopting-a-unit:

- Welcome Home
- Deployment Send Off
- Yellow Ribbon
- Family Day
- Dinner/Picnic
- Holiday Parties

The most important thing we do as the VFW Auxiliary, is support our Veterans (and active duty!) every way we can. There is a grant for this program, but the application must come from your Post, it is no longer available to auxiliaries. Keep an eye on the link above to know when the grant becomes available for the 2025-2026 year.

### **Upcoming Patriotic Holidays/Recognition Days:**

Please note the Patriotic Holidays and Recognition days in August/September and reach out, hold an event, honor them **ALL**:

- Purple Heart Day (August 7)
- Agent Orange Awareness Day (August 10)

- Navajo Code Talkers Day (August 14)
- V-J Day (September 2)
- Patriot Day/National Day of Service & Remembrance (September 11)
- Uncle Same Day (September 13)
- VFW Auxiliary Birthday (September 14)
- Constitution Day & Citizenship Day (September 17)
- POW/MIA Recognition Day (3<sup>rd</sup> Friday in September)
- Gold Star Mother's & Family Day (last Sunday in September)
- VFW Day (September 29)

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