



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary "Buddy"® Poppy/National Home for Children Guide Sheet 2024-25

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: "Buddy"® Poppy/ VFW National Home-Michigan

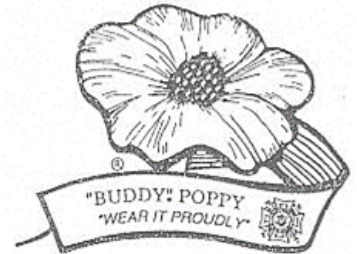
National Theme: From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans

Department Theme: Aspire to Inspire

PROGRAM GOALS

**"Buddy"® Poppy Education/Outreach - "Buddy"® Poppy Display Contest
VFW National Home Education and Community Outreach**

"Buddy"® Poppy Program - The "Buddy"® Poppy is a small and mighty flower that has remained the VFW's official memorial flower since 1922. The Poppy represents the blood shed by American service members and provides us with the reminder of their sacrifices. The Poppy program provides compensation to veterans who assemble them, financial assistance to veterans' rehabilitation and service programs, and partially supports the VFW National Home.



2025

A Year to Remember



VFW National Home – Founded in 1925 as a place where families left behind by war –mothers and children, brothers and sisters – could remain together, keeping the family circle intact even when their serviceman didn't come home. The VFW National Home serves as a living memorial to America's veterans by helping our nation's military and veteran families during difficult times. On January 7, 2025, the VFW National Home, has helped military and veteran families who need a fresh start in a safe and peaceful environment for 100 years! Let's promote and celebrate this momentous occasion.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event using the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy to educate their community about the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy.
 - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event using the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy to educate their community about the VFW "Buddy"® Poppy.
2. Most outstanding activity and/or event to recognize and celebrate the VFW National Home's 100th Birthday.
 - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event to recognize and celebrate the VFW National Home's 100th Birthday.

Entry forms required for each award and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry forms to their Department "Buddy"® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and monies will be deposited in the winning Auxiliaries account after the 2025 VFW National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- Best Overall activity and/or event to recognize and celebrate the VFW National Home’s 100th Birthday. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best Overall activity and/or event using the VFW “Buddy”[®] Poppy to educate their community about the VFW “Buddy”[®] Poppy. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- \$20, \$15, and \$10 to the Auxiliaries for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in the Mid-Winter “Buddy”[®] Poppy display contest. Youth Category: Plaque for 1st place winner and Citation to all youth who participated.
- Best Overall promotion of the VFW National Home Help Line. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best promotion of the VFW National Home in each membership category. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

| | | | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| #1 -10-36 | #2 -37-50 | #3 51-68 | #4 - 69-84 | #5 - 85-98 |
| #6 - 99-115 | #7 - 116-139 | #8 -140-166 | #9 -167-237 | #10 -238-OVER |

| Achievements | Completed | Reported |
|---|------------------|-----------------|
| Hold a “Buddy” [®] Poppy drive with or without their VFW Post | | |
| Promote the “Buddy” [®] Poppy thru education in the community | | |
| Participate in the Mid-Winter Conference “Buddy” [®] Poppy display contest | | |
| Number of “Buddy” [®] Poppies that were distributed during Program Year | | |
| Promote the VFW National Home thru education in the community | | |
| Promote the VFW National Home Helpline | | |
| Attend Michigan Day at the VFW National Home on August 11, 2024 | | |
| Auxiliary held an activity/event to recognize the VFW National Home’s 100 th Birthday | | |
| Auxiliary to send 100 th Birthday Card to the National Home by January 1, 2025 | | |
| Purchase at least one Life Membership to VFW National Home in current Program Year | | |
| Purchase at least one VFW National Home Tribute Brick in current Program Year | | |
| National Health & Happiness donations of \$.10 to \$.25 cents per member. Paid in full by March 31, 2025, based on June 30, 2024 membership | | |
| Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference | | |
| Attend and register at your own District Meeting | | |
| Report every quarter | | |

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