



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Veterans & Family Support Guide Sheet 2022-2023

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Veterans & Family Support-Michigan

National Theme: Hands that Serve Hearts that Care

Department Theme: Be the Anchor for Our Veterans, Hold Them Steady and Safe

PROGRAM GOALS

VFW National Veterans Service (NVS)

VFW Veterans & Military Support Programs

Assist Veterans, Service Members and Their Families

Promote Veteran & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness

VFW National Veterans Service

NVS helps veterans, service members, and their families obtain the benefits they deserve – at no cost. NVS provides a nationwide network of nearly 200 VFW Service Officers who help veterans navigate the Veterans Affairs system.

VFW Veterans & Military Support Programs

VFW Veterans & Military Support Programs serve active-duty and recently discharged military.

- **Military Assistance Program (MAP):** helps VFW and Auxiliary members give more to their local military units. It helps forge and nurture bonds with those units by providing financial assistance for Posts, Districts, and Departments to sponsor morale-boosting send-offs, homecomings, and casual get togethers.
- Post and Auxiliaries participating in **Adopt-a-Unit** and Family Readiness Group events can also receive assistance. MAP keeps care packages circulating by covering postage costs. For guidelines to apply for MAP funds, contact the VFW Veterans & Military Support office at 816-756-3390.
- **Unmet Needs** provides grants up to \$1,500 to active-duty service members and their families to assist with basic life needs. To learn more, visit vfw.org/assistance/financial-grants.
- **Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship:** awards scholarships of up to \$5,000 to qualifying veterans and service members to help them complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt. For more information, visit vfw.org/assistance/student-veterans-support.

Promote Veteran & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness

Make a difference in the life of a veteran or service member in crisis by educating yourself and others about the warning signs of suicide.

- The Veterans Crisis Line connects veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through a confidential toll-free hotline, online chat, or text. Veterans and their loved ones can:
 - Call 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1
 - Chat online at veteranscrisisline.net
 - Send a text message to 838255

NATIONAL AWARDS

Most outstanding activity and/or event that supports veteran, military, and family caregivers.

- Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that supports veteran, military, and family caregivers. Criteria and entry form (required) available at vfwauxiliary.org/resources. Auxiliaries are to send entry form to their Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman by March 31, 2023.
- Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding activity and/or event that supports veteran, military, and family caregivers. Winners will be announced and awards presented at the 2023 National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona.

Most outstanding activity and/or event that increases awareness of homeless veterans.

- Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event to increase awareness of homeless veterans. Criteria and entry form (required) available at vfwauxiliary.org/resources. Auxiliaries are to send entry form to their Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman by March 31, 2023.
- Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding activity and/or event that increases awareness of homeless veterans. Winners will be announced and awards presented at the 2023 National Convention in Phoenix, Arizona.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- ✓ Best Veterans & Family Support program in each membership category
\$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Overall activity/event that increases awareness of homeless veterans. Auxiliary must send required form to Department Chairman.
\$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Overall Promotion and fundraising for the National Veterans Services and VFW Veterans and Military Support program
\$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary; Citation to Chairman
- ✓ Best Overall project, event or activity that supports Veteran and Military Caregivers.
\$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary; Citation to Chairman
- ✓ Citation to the Auxiliary for participation in any of the following programs: food insecurity, female veterans, and/or suicide prevention.

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
Auxiliary utilized the Veterans & Family Support material/resources available on the National VFW Auxiliary website		
Auxiliary promoted, participated, hosted/co-hosted with your VFW Post activities for any of these programs: Disaster Relief, Military Assistance (MAP), National Veterans Service (NVS), Unmet Needs, Veterans & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness		
Auxiliary provided direct aid to veterans, service members, and/or their families (i.e. meals, transportation, cards, packages, donations, etc.)		
Sponsored/participated in events or projects for Homeless Veterans. (Stand Downs, clothing drives, Beds for Vets, etc.)		
Reported number of veterans, service members and/or their families assisted. (Report each time you assist)		
Promoted veteran and military suicide prevention and mental health awareness		
Provided support to veterans and their caregivers		
Chairman attended a School of Instruction – Sunday 2022 Convention Training, District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Chairman attended their own District Meeting		
Reported every quarter		

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