

It's Time For America's Military Heroes

www.ladiesauxvfw.org



In many places around the world today, America's men and women are fighting to preserve our freedom and helping others who also want to live in a free country. The 550,000 members of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States are proud to support our troops and have been fulfilling that role since the organization began in 1914. In the 5,000 Auxiliaries throughout the United States, Germany, Guam and Panama, members have been actively supporting our troops and their families in many ways.

The organization wants to ensure that America's veterans will not be forgotten and that those who need assistance will get it. To help achieve those goals, each year donations are made from the National Organization to help make life better for a variety of people.

Ladies Auxiliary VFW members are...

Wives, widows, mothers, foster and stepmothers (who have performed the duties of parent), grandmothers, daughters, granddaughters, foster and stepdaughters (who attained that status prior to age sixteen and for whom the duties of parent were performed), sisters, half sisters, foster and stepsisters (who attained that status prior to age sixteen) of persons who were or are eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Members must be citizens of the United States and not less than sixteen years old. Women eligible for membership in the VFW shall be eligible for dual membership in the Ladies Auxiliary.

Junior Girls Unit members are...

Daughters, foster daughters, stepdaughters, granddaughters, sisters, half sisters, foster sisters, or stepsisters of persons eligible for the VFW. They must be aged 5 through 16.

2008-2009

Donations To Fight Cancer

- \$50,000 University of Nebraska Eppley Cancer Center for breast cancer research
- \$50,000 Barrow Institute's Brain Tumor Clinic, Phoenix, Arizona
- \$25,000 Memorial Health Foundation, Savannah, Georgia
- \$25,000 The Jackson Laboratory, Bar Harbor, Maine
- \$25,000 M.D. Anderson Cancer Center for adult sarcoma research, Houston, Texas

Special Donations

- \$10,000 Support of the documentary "A Father's Return"
- \$7,000 Bronze Medal Sponsor of the Wheelchair Games
- \$5,000 Fisher House Foundation
- \$3,000 Mid-America Boy Scout Council's Little Sioux Scout Ranch
- \$2,500 Angels Among Us
- \$2,500 The Lakeshore Foundation's Lima Foxtrot Program
- \$2,500 Heartland Museum of Military Vehicles, Nebraska
- \$2,500 Cody, Wyoming, World War II Memorial
- \$2,500 The Highground Veterans Memorial Park, Wisconsin
- \$2,500 New Mexico Veterans Memorial
- \$1,500 Ex-Prisoners of War Memorial, Omaha
- \$1,000 Entertainment items for soldiers stationed in Korea at the DMZ

Americanism

The Ladies Auxiliary VFW is the only organization to celebrate the Statue of Liberty's Birthday for the past 72 consecutive years. On Oct. 28, 2008, members of the Ladies Auxiliary celebrated 123 years since the original dedication of the National Monument that represents freedom to the world. Other Americanism activities: donating 478,184 American Flags to schools and community groups, presenting 8,778 certificates to those displaying the U.S. Flag, and 2,557 patriotism programs in schools.

Cancer Aid & Research

Dollars raised to support research: \$2,601,753

Grants to assist members: 3,299, totaling \$1,430,600

A two-year \$100,000 Postdoctoral Cancer Research Fellowship was awarded to Dr. Elizabeth McCullum of Baylor College of Medicine.

Money is also returned to each state for local cancer research and members help spread the word on the importance of early detection.

Community Service

Members around the country conduct hundreds of activities to benefit their communities, like donating items to homeless shelters, conducting food drives, giving gifts to children's hospitals, aiding victims of abuse, and cleaning up parks, memorials and highways. Members also participate in The Library of Congress' Veterans History Project, Make-A-Difference Day and many other national volunteer initiatives.

VFW & Ladies Auxiliary

Volunteer hours: 13,186,070
Donations: \$66,999,406

Hospital & VAVS

65,000 members volunteered one million hours in VA Medical Centers, nursing homes, and other hospitals during the past year. In addition, 25,000 volunteers served 400,000 hours making homemade baked goods and other gifts. A total of \$1.5 million was donated in these endeavors to help hospitalized veterans. In addition, 2,500 volunteers donated 20,000 hours and \$28,000 to help with the Hospitalized Veterans' Writing Project. Outstanding service pins were awarded to 261 volunteers who served from 150 to 25,000 hours.

Legislative

Speaking out on Capitol Hill for veterans and their families helps secure and protect promises made to our military and makes sure that those who sacrificed for our country are not forgotten. Ladies Auxiliary members support the VFW Legislative & National Security Priority Goals and contact legislators about issues affecting veterans and their families. Last year, members contacted officials in person or via e-mail, faxes, and letters 97,063 times. Nearly 4,000 Auxiliaries participated in "Meet the Candidate" events.

Veterans & Family Support

Members strive to assist veterans and their families by ensuring a suitable standard of living, through financial support, moral support, or by simple acts of kindness. Members help with needs such as rent, child care, food, clothing, utilities, household goods and transportation.

Volunteer Hours: 1,230,841

Donations: \$6,308,611

Scholarships

Young American Patriotic Art Contest
Junior Girls Scholarship Contest
Continuing Education Scholarship
Go to www.ladiesauxvfw.org
for brochures.