

# Veterans and Family Support Chairman Bulletin 3

**VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT CHAIRMAN Rose Green**

Dear Members,

I want to express how proud I am of all the incredible work you are doing for our veterans. Throughout the year, I have witnessed numerous outstanding projects, and it is inspiring to see how much you have improved in sharing your achievements with others. Your dedication has not gone unnoticed—several of our auxiliaries have been highlighted in the National e-newsletter and featured on National Facebook postings.

Your effective use of hashtags such as **#VFSrisingtide**, **#vfwauxwa**, **#auxlegislative**, **#auxiliarypatriotism**, **#auxiliaryoutreach**, **#Auxiliariesinaction**, as well as others like **#Santa2025**, **#illustratingAmerica**, and **#vfwauxyouthactivities**, is helping to bring attention to the meaningful work you are accomplishing.

As I shared with you at Mid-Winter, many of the resources you need are already at your fingertips. The existing programs provide valuable support, and I encourage you to explore these and other programs to find information that will help you continue supporting veterans, their families, and our community.

## Goals and Resources for Supporting Veterans

My objectives for this year are centered on connecting you with the most valuable resources available to aid veterans and their families. First, I aimed to highlight VFW-based Veterans Assistance Programs, which are designed to directly support those who have served. Additionally, I introduced you to other organizations that provide free education on suicide awareness and mental health, empowering you to promote these important issues within our community.

I also provided information regarding grants that can assist you in carrying out projects, ensuring you are aware of opportunities to secure funding for your initiatives. Furthermore, it is important to stay updated on changes occurring within the VFW Veterans Service Officer Division. I encourage you to review Bulletins 1 and 2 as well as the Mid-Winter Promotion <https://vfwauxwa.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=137912> if you are not familiar with the recent updates to the VSO program, including the differences between VSOs and PBAs. You will also learn about programs that have been replaced by new ones, and I will keep you informed about scholarship opportunities that help veterans reduce financial burdens, such as the VFW Help-a-Hero Scholarship.

## Help – A- Hero Scholarship Details

- Scholarships of up to \$5,000 will be awarded to qualified applicants.
- Only one scholarship will be awarded per family per semester.
- Applications for the fall semester are accepted from **January 1 to April 30.**
- Applications for the spring semester are accepted from **August 1 to November 15.**
- Fall semester scholarships are awarded in August; spring semester scholarships are awarded in January.
- Scholarships must be used by the end of the school semester for which the veteran is applying, or they will become null and void.
- Funds are restricted to tuition and fees and will be paid directly to accredited schools.

Look further to find out more information on eligibility

<https://vfwfoundation.org/sports-clips/>

## Community Support and Information Sharing

Another meaningful way to help more veterans is by sharing information you have about local food banks, churches, and other community-based programs that provide aid. While you might believe this information is already available to us, these programs frequently change as new ones emerge and others close. When I receive these updates, I share them with VSOs in the relevant areas and with the VFW National Home. Although we are told there are resources in our communities, most are federally or state funded. The smaller, community-based programs are often unknown to larger organizations, but we can bring these resources to their attention by sharing information. I will accept email at

[wecareaboutvets@gmail.com](mailto:wecareaboutvets@gmail.com)

## Inspiration and Encouragement

“A Rising Tide Lifts all Veterans to Success”—we must “Keep the Home Fires Burning,” because you can be the guiding light in someone else’s storm.

Loyally,

Rose Green

WA Veterans & Family Support Chrm.