



I would like to thank all those you participated in the Program Zoom meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup>. For those who couldn't participate I'm available 24-7 to answer any questions and or HELP with this program as it is the heart of what we do. I would also love to hear about all the wonderful things you are doing in your Auxiliary so I can share it with our National Ambassador, Tessa Butcher. United "Banding Together for Our Veterans" we can "Do It for Those Who Can't".

#### **CONTACT DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN**

Annie Sullivan @ 360-274-9178

EMAIL: [anniesullivan1972@gmail.com](mailto:anniesullivan1972@gmail.com)

#### **WEBSITES PROGRAM INFORMATION**

[vfwauxwa.org](http://vfwauxwa.org)

[www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org) Natl website

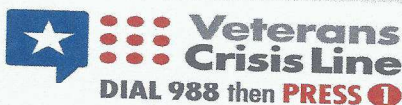
Malta Login/Member Resources

#### **VETERANS CRISIS LINE CONTACTS**

I have a new link to share with ALL of you: Called "Spread the Word"

<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net> –

click on Resources and Support than Spread the word. You'll find many downloadable materials & Videos.



Call 1-800-MyVA411 access VA Dept

Call 988 and Press 1

Chat online at [veteranscrisisline.net](http://veteranscrisisline.net)

Send a text message to 838255

## VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT BULLETIN #3

### **VFW FOUNDATION GRANTS 2023-2024**

The VFW's Foundation is providing three grant opportunities during the 23-24 cycle. The application period is now open. The three grants available are:

1. VFW #StillServing Grants – offered to Posts, District and their Auxiliaries to offset expenses incurred while doing community service projects. Both the VFW Posts & its Auxiliary, and a District & its Auxiliary, can receive funding of up to \$1,500.
2. Post Assistance Grants – offered to Posts to offset expenses incurred for building repairs and equipment. Posts may receive up to \$2,500.
3. Uniting to Combat Hunger Grant – this Grant is a matching grant of up to \$1,500 available to Posts & Auxiliaries for monetary & food donations to local food banks and pantries in their communities.

For more information, direct any questions you may have to [Foundation@vfw.org](mailto:Foundation@vfw.org)

### **VFW NATIONAL VETERANS SERVICES (NVS) & VETERANS & MILITARY SUPPORT – VMS**

There aren't many Auxiliaries that have made a donation to these two National Programs.

**The GOAL is to increase donations by providing awareness of the benefits of these programs. So, what are the Benefits?**

1. National Veterans Services provides a nationwide network of nearly 300 VFW Service Officers who help Veterans navigate the Veterans Affairs system.
2. VFW Veterans & Military Support contains programs initiated by the VFW: Military Assistance Program (MAP), the Unmet Needs Program & "Sports Clips\* Help a Hero Scholarship". These programs serve active-duty and recently discharged military.

**There will be an incentive drawing at Mid-Winter & State Convention for the Auxiliaries who donate to both programs. One Auxiliary will be drawn to receive a \$50 VFW Store Gift Certificate. Let's Support what National gives back to the Department of Washington.**

**Donations to NVS & VMS can be made by your Auxiliary:**

**By Mail:** Made ck payable to VFW Auxiliary Department of WA along with a check summary to: VFW Auxiliary Dept of WA, Attn: Cindy Burkey, PO Box 13193, Spokane Valley, WA 99213

As Spring approaches now is a good time to plan an activity or event preparing to fulfill the Veteran's & Family Support National Awards report. The following is the criteria:

**AWARD #1** – Most outstanding activity or event to increase awareness of military suicide and mental health.

**AWARD #2** – Most outstanding activity or event to increase the support of Veterans, service members and their families.

I will provide the actual reports in the next bulletin but if you want to review or print it go to the VFW Auxiliary National website

[www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org) – click on Malta, Login, Member Resources, Veterans and Family Support, than Award Forms.

I look forward to attending Mid-Winter Conference and will be having a table with some raffle items and a few silent auction items generating funds for Veterans & Family Support at the Department level. There will be a "POST CHALLENGE" and the information flyer is attached, so be sure to share this with everyone in your Auxiliary & District.

Annie Sullivan, Department of WA, Veterans & Family Support Chairman

# FoVFW Foundation Grants

For nearly 124 years, VFW Posts have been the pillars of support in their communities. From building local playgrounds and organizing clothing drives, to military support events and disaster relief efforts, we take great pride in our long history of service to communities across the globe.

The VFW Foundation is proud to offer funding through various grant programs available throughout the year designed to help VFW Posts and their Auxiliaries provide the vital support local communities, America's heroes and their families all deserve,

The VFW Foundation is providing three grant opportunities during the 2023-2024 cycle. **The VFW Foundation application period is now open!**

**Grants are open exclusively to VFW entities.** All grants are reimbursement based as applicants will need to do a project and then submit an application with proof of how the funding was spent. Applicants are highly encouraged to contact the VFW Foundation prior to starting a project to ensure it qualifies.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact VFW Foundation Grants Manager Jason Couch at [JCouch@vfw.org](mailto:JCouch@vfw.org).

## **VFW #StillServing Grant**

The #StillServing Grant is offered exclusively to VFW Posts, Districts and their Auxiliaries to offset expenses incurred while doing community service projects. Projects require direct involvement by the applying organization's members with members of their community to qualify.

Both a VFW Post and its Auxiliary, and a District and its Auxiliary, can receive funding of up to \$1,500, but each applicant organization must have its own unique project. Applicants are limited to receiving a total of \$1,500 during the cycle.

Applications for the VFW #StillServing Grant will be accepted through June 1, 2024, or until all grant funding is exhausted.

**Apply Today**

### **Post Assistance Grant**

The Post Assistance Grant is offered exclusively to VFW Posts to offset expenses incurred for building repairs and equipment that enhances or restores the applicant organization's ability to serve veterans and their community. Auxiliaries, Districts, Departments and other VFW subordinate organizations, etc., may not apply.

VFW Posts may receive up to \$2,500 in reimbursement for qualifying projects. Applicants are limited to receiving this grant once every three years, with 2023-24 being the inaugural year.

Applications for the VFW Foundation Post Assistance Grant will be accepted until June 1, 2024, or until all grant funding is exhausted.

**Apply Today**

### **Uniting to Combat Hunger Grant**

Join us in our fight against food insecurity! The Uniting to Combat Hunger Grant is a matching grant of up to \$1,500 available to VFW Posts and Auxiliaries for monetary and food donations to local food banks and pantries in their communities. The VFW Foundation will provide a \$1 match for every pound of food or dollar donated to food insecurity organizations. A Post or its Auxiliary may receive this grant but not both.

The 2023-2024 UTCH grant application period is now open. We will continue to accept applications until funding for the grant is exhausted.

**Apply Today**

For more information, please direct any questions you may have to [Foundation@vfw.org](mailto:Foundation@vfw.org).

## Attention VFW Chairmen!

For your convenience, all VFW Chairman Guides and Department training tools and resources can now be accessed by [logging in](#) and visiting the VFW Training and Support section on the My VFW page.

# Let the Challenge Begin

## Mid-Winter Conference Veterans & Military Support Fundraiser



Bronze \$5 one ticket - Silver \$10 two tickets - Gold \$20 four tickets  
(monetary donations - every \$5 donated one ticket)

The Pins will be available to purchase at Mid-winter and whoever purchases the most pins or makes a monetary donation will be the winner. A ticket will be drawn from the looser bucket to see which Post or Auxiliary will dress-up the Department Commander or the Department President as a *Super Hero* at State Convention in June.

Rules for the Commander or President outfit (Their choice of the timeslot at State Convention)

1. Buddy Poppies must be used in the design of the outfit
2. Outfit cannot be risqué
3. Outfit must be tastefully done
4. HAVE FUN
5. The Theme is Super Heroes

