

YOUR VFW

AT A GLANCE



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

www.vfw.org

A Proud Legacy

We trace our roots back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service. Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them, and they were left to care for themselves.

In their misery, some of these veterans banded together and formed organizations that would eventually become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Our Mission

To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

Our Vision

Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

Our Core Values

- Always put the interests of our members first
- Treat donors as partners in our cause
- Promote patriotism
- Honor military service
- Ensure the care of veterans and their families
- Serve our communities
- Promote a positive image of the VFW
- Respect the diversity of veteran opinions

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Legislative Priorities

The VFW's National Legislative Service is our watchdog on Capitol Hill with one goal: to protect YOU.

We meet with members of Congress and advocate for legislation to improve benefits and services for service members, veterans and their families. We listen to our members through resolutions adopted at the VFW National Convention and surveys conducted on the VFW's website. We equip, educate, and organize our members through the VFW Action Corps.

As one of the most respected voices on Capitol Hill, we'll never stop fighting for the rights and benefits all veterans have earned through service. Getting good legislation passed and stopping bad legislation is our mission.



Legislative Accomplishments

By testifying at congressional committee hearings and interacting with congressional members, the VFW has played an instrumental role in nearly every piece of veterans' legislation passed since the beginning of the 20th Century:

- ✓ EVERY version of the GI Bill
- ✓ Veterans preference for federal employment
- ✓ Compensation for Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange
- ✓ Expanded VA benefits and services to Persian Gulf War veterans
- ✓ Concurrent military retirement and disability pay for veterans with a VA disability rating of 50 percent or greater
- ✓ Caregiver benefits for Post-9/11 veterans
- ✓ Commissioned research on the impact of toxic exposures on the health of veterans' descendants
- ✓ The Clay Hunt Suicide Prevention for American Veterans Act
- ✓ Authorize VA to provide fertility treatments and adoption reimbursement for veterans who have lost their ability to conceive due to their military service
- ✓ Protected earned benefits from dangerous cuts



Stay in-the-know on key issues affecting veterans and the military by signing up for Action Corps. You'll get the latest information on key veterans' legislation, national security matters and other news affecting America's defenders. 202-608-8351 • www.vfw.org/Advocacy



VFW Programs & Services

Our programs and services are the heart of our great organization. Take a moment to learn more about the many ways your VFW is improving life for veterans, service members, their families and our communities.

National Veterans Service

The VFW's National Veterans Service (NVS) office assists veterans in filing claims with the VA.

NVS consists of a nationwide network of service officers who are experts in dealing with the claims process and help thousands of veterans cut through the bureaucratic red tape every year. They are the key to success, recovering billions in earned benefits and compensation for veterans.

Your first step in filing a claim should be to contact a VFW Service

Officer. **The entire process is free to all veterans**, so tell those you know who are not VFW members. Visit our website to learn more and find a VFW Service Officer near you. **1-800-VFW-1899 • www.vfw.org/NVS**

National Security & Foreign Affairs

Through our National Security & Foreign Affairs (NSFA) program, we advocate on issues ranging from quality of life improvements for service members to promoting democracy abroad to the full accounting of those missing in action.

We articulate a national security and foreign affairs policy that:

- Calls for quality of life improvements for military personnel, retirees and their families.
- Encourages strong national defense and homeland security programs.
- Promotes our democratic ideals and interests abroad.
- Seeks the fullest possible accounting of all military service members from all wars.

202-543-2239 • www.vfw.org/NSFA

1 Student Veteran

The VFW joined with Student Veterans of America to create the 1 Student Veteran program, which offers direct assistance to student veterans who have questions or are experiencing problems accessing their VA benefits.

We seek to ensure student veterans receive their benefits in a timely manner and have a place to turn if they need help. Our direct access to VA Regional Offices across the country means we can work quickly to provide our student veterans timely and accurate answers regarding the complex claims process. It also means those whose education benefits have been wrongfully denied, delayed during a transfer from one school to another, or paid in error will not have to wait

the months it would traditionally take to file a formal appeal.

Email: 1studentveteran@vfw.org

• www.vfw.org/1StudentVeteran

Unmet Needs

The VFW Unmet Needs program helps America's service members and veterans who run into unexpected financial difficulties as a result of deployment or other military-related activity. The program provides financial aid up to \$5,000 to assist with basic life needs in the form of a grant

VFW's Pre-Discharge Program

This program ensures separating and retiring active-duty military personnel receive assistance in obtaining their VA entitlements and benefits upon discharge.

Our pre-discharge representatives, located on or near major military installations across the country, guide military personnel through the veterans claims process and conduct physical examinations prior to their separation from active duty. They are also ready to answer questions about education and medical benefits, as well as VA home loans.

— *not a loan* — so no repayment is required.

Since the program's inception, Unmet Needs has distributed millions of dollars in financial aid to qualified military families. **1-866-789-6333 • www.vfw.org/UnmetNeeds**

Scholarships for Veterans

The VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" provides service members and veterans with the financial assistance they need to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt. It's just another way we say "thank you" for your service and sacrifice.

Scholarships of up to \$5,000 are awarded to qualified applicants each semester, and previous recipients are free to apply again in the future. **816-756-3390 • www.vfw.org/Scholarship**

VFW Mental Wellness Campaign

The nation faces a crisis of veteran suicide. That's why the VFW launched its Mental Wellness Campaign. We are committed to helping change the narrative and stigma surrounding mental health in America.

To raise awareness, foster community engagement, improve research and provide intervention

for those affected by invisible injuries and emotional stress, the VFW has teamed up with the nationwide organizations Give an Hour and the Campaign to Change Direction, One Mind, PatientsLikeMe, Walgreens, and the Elizabeth Dole Foundation to combat this critical issue. **www.vfw.org/MentalWellness**



Youth and Education

Working alongside America's youth and instilling a sense of patriotism has always been — and will always be — a VFW priority. The VFW provides scholarships and other incentives to both middle school and high school students through the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen competitions. The VFW also inspires achievement through the Scout of the Year and Teacher of the Year awards. Through

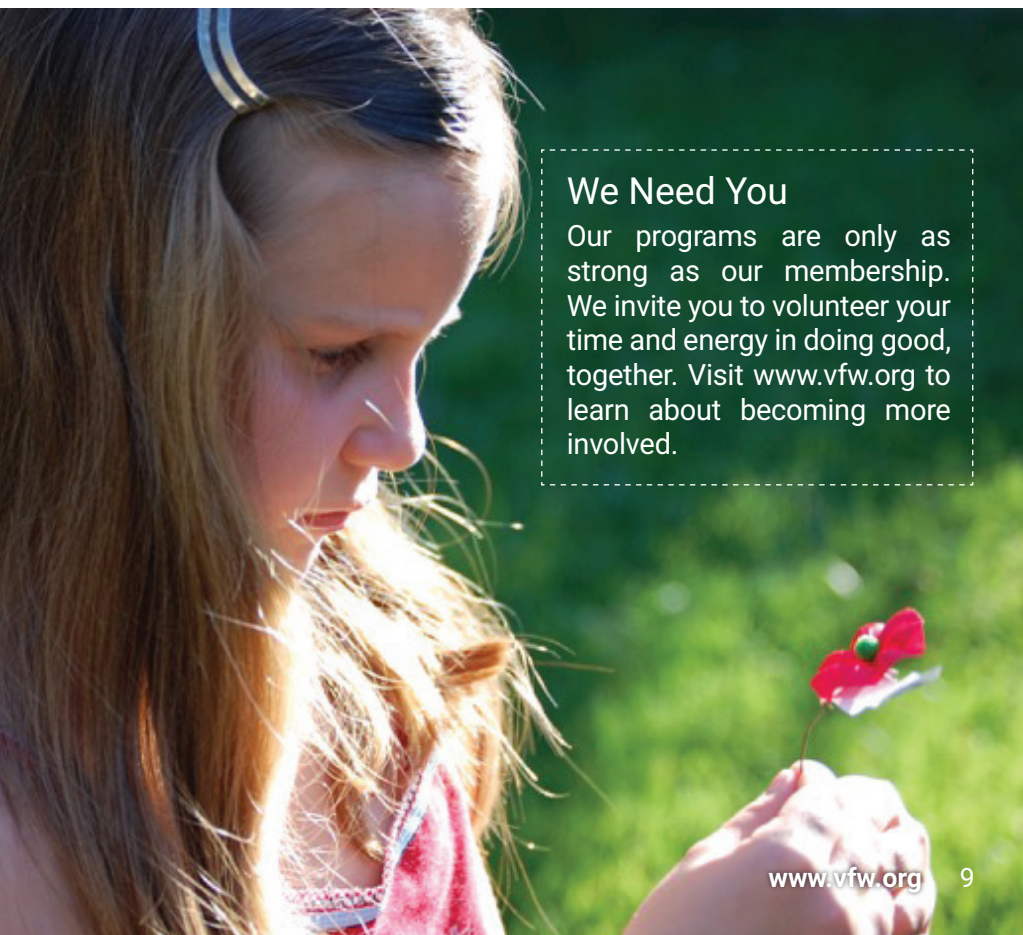
Veterans in the Classroom, we also regularly provide students with rare insight into the great sacrifices our service members make to maintain freedom for all of us. www.vfw.org/Youth

Community Initiatives

We understand first-hand the essence of rallying community support and the positive, life-changing impact we have on the world around us. That's why

VFW members volunteer nearly 9 million hours to community service projects annually, with volunteerism benefiting morale, education, the environment, health sciences and civic projects.

The VFW also takes the lead on fostering patriotism, honor and remembrance across the nation through the VFW's "Buddy"® Poppy program and other initiatives. www.vfw.org/CommunityInitiatives



We Need You

Our programs are only as strong as our membership. We invite you to volunteer your time and energy in doing good, together. Visit www.vfw.org to learn about becoming more involved.

It's Just One More Way You Are Honored For Your Service.

In honor of your service to America, patriotic businesses across the country offer exclusive discounts and services to VFW members. Visit our VFW Member Benefits web page www.vfw.org/MemberBenefits to learn more about the specific advantages your membership provides!

Member Benefits

Insurance Programs	Access to exclusive insurance and life planning products, made available to you at the best possible rates.
Financial Service	Make the most of your money with convenient services.
Sports and Leisure	Exclusive savings on tee times at thousands of courses in the U.S. and worldwide.
Technology and Electronics	Use great discounts and stay up-to-date on the latest technology.
Travel Services	Let us help you make traveling more convenient! Discounts on your travel package, hotel and car rental.
Retail Discounts	Retail establishments offer special discounts to VFW members.
Haircuts	Sport Clips® is proud to be the Official Haircutter of the VFW.
Medical Services	Members save on prescriptions, vision, hearing aids and other health products.
End of Life Services	End of life services help you give your family peace of mind.

Life Membership

As an annual member of the VFW, your dues cover the cost of your membership through the date printed on your membership card. Each year, you will receive a notice to renew your membership.

But what if you never had to worry about any of that?

By becoming a Life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, your dues are paid for the rest of your life. No more dues notices, no more worrying about losing your membership benefits, you’ve earned the privilege of membership for life.

The cost of a Life membership is based on your age, as shown in the table below. You can opt to make a one-time payment or to take part in our Installment Plan where you will make a \$45 initial payment and 11 monthly payments after which you will receive your Life member card.

Life Membership Payment Schedule			
AGE as of DECEMBER 31st	ONE-TIME PAYMENT	LIFE MEMBERSHIP INSTALLMENT PLAN	
		initial payment	11 payments of
THROUGH AGE 30	\$425.00	\$45.00	\$38.64
31-40	\$410.00	\$45.00	\$37.27
41-50	\$375.00	\$45.00	\$34.09
51-60	\$335.00	\$45.00	\$30.45
61-70	\$290.00	\$45.00	\$26.36
71-80	\$225.00	\$45.00	\$20.45
81 AND OVER	\$170.00	\$45.00	\$15.45

When you want to take that next step toward becoming a member for life, the VFW is ready to take it with you!

For more information visit www.vfw.org/Join or call 1-888-JOIN-VFW (564-6839).

Your VFW Membership Benefits All Veterans.

The VFW strives to do good things for deserving people — our veterans, service members and their families. From local grassroots ideas to national influence, we work every day to make a difference. It's our strength as an organization, and with each individual membership, we only grow stronger.

A strong VFW means a louder veteran voice that cannot be ignored.

It ensures we have the strength to fight to protect VA benefits, and that we're taken seriously when advocating for new veterans' programs and veterans' legislation.





Proudly serving America's Heroes.


VFW Members, save each time you rent at Alamo® Rent A Car, Enterprise Rent-A-Car® or National Car Rental®.

Visit Travel Services at

www.vfw.org/memberbenefits to learn more.



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 AMERICA'S MOST TRUSTED
 CREMATION SERVICES

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Veterans of Foreign Wars, one of the nation's largest wartime veterans service organizations, supports veterans, promotes patriotism, and mentors youth.

Neptune Society and the VFW have joined together to support our veterans and promote veteran burial and cremation benefits.



1-800-NEPTUNE | www.NeptuneSociety.com

Honoring veterans, serving veterans

Humana is proud to be the Medicare Advantage provider to the VFW.



Visit Humana at www.vfw.org/about-us/our-allies to learn more.

Humana



Humana is a Medicare Advantage organization with a Medicare contract. Enrollment in a Humana plan depends on contract renewal. A salesperson will be present with information and applications. For accommodation of persons with special needs at sales meetings, call **1-855-252-4512 (TTY: 711)** Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. - 8 p.m. Humana Inc. and its subsidiaries (“Humana”) do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex.

English: ATTENTION: If you do not speak English, language assistance services, free of charge, are available to you. Call **1-855-252-4512 (TTY: 711)**.

Español (Spanish): ATENCIÓN: Si habla español, tiene a su disposición servicios gratuitos de asistencia lingüística. Llame al **1-855-202-2518 (TTY: 711)**.

繁體中文 (Chinese): 注意: 如果您使用繁體中文, 您可以免費獲得語言援助服務。請致電 **1-855-252-4512 (TTY: 711)**。



VFW National Headquarters

406 W. 34th St.
Kansas City, MO 64111
816-756-3390

Membership:

1-888-JOINVFW (562-6839)

Dues Processing: 1-800-963-3180

Programs: 816-756-3390

Veterans Service

Unmet Needs

Troop Support

Youth & Education

Communications: 816-968-1118

Development: 816-756-3390 x7108

VFW Magazine: 816-968-1167

VFW Foundation: 816-968-1128

VFW Store: 1-800-821-2606

Information Technology:
816-968-2794



VFW Washington Office

200 Maryland Ave., N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
202-543-2239

National Veterans Service:

1-800-VFW-1899

National Legislative Service:

202-543-2239

National Security and Foreign Affairs:

202-543-2239

Communications, Publications and
Public Affairs: 202-543-2239

Reach us 24/7 at
www.vfw.org

VFW

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NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.



Let's Stay Connected
Visit us online: www.vfw.org

