



February 2026

Veterans & Family Support

*"A rising tide lifts all veterans to success!"*

We are now entering the last two months of our program year and there is still plenty that we can accomplish for our veterans, their families, and our communities. I am so proud of what we have done so far but I know that we can *"blow it out of the water"* in the next two months!

Just an update on some information that I shared at Department Mid-Winter. We now have 14 auxiliaries that have not reported. This is down from almost 20, or a third of our auxiliaries, that hadn't reported as of January. Ask yourself, "Why do we exist?" If it's not to serve veterans then why? We should be 100% in reporting.

I also want to touch on some of the awards that I've offered. One is recognition if your Auxiliary donates to the Joint Project for PTSD Awareness between President David and the VFW Department Commander, Charlie Cravens. This can be done by purchasing one of the PTSD Awareness T-shirts or by making a direct contribution. If your Auxiliary makes a contribution, it needs to be sent to Jeanette Cox with a note stating it's for Department **President David's Joint Project for PTSD**. For either of those you will need to send me a report or I won't know about it.

Another is if your Auxiliary has done a project that spreads awareness of veteran or military support programs through events, activities, or media. (examples: 988, MAP, NVS). Did your Auxiliary post to your Facebook page about one of the examples mentioned? Send me a report. Did you have an event or activity where you shared about any of them? Send me a report.

Did your Auxiliary "adopt" a unit? This is very easy to do. If you need assistance, just contact me and I'll walk you through the steps. Then....send me a report.

Have you noticed the common theme? I can't know what your Auxiliary is doing without a report. I know that I personally don't do what I do for recognition. However, did you know that what we report is used to appeal to Congress for benefits for our veterans' and support for the various programs for them? The report data is compiled and presented to Congress. Your reports are powerful tools in ensuring Congress listens and supports the VFW Priority Goals. Every single report strengthens our mission and advocacy efforts. Those reports are more important than we realize.

If you need help with any of the above (including help completing a report) I am just a phone call, email, or text away.

As always.....THANK YOU for all you do!!!

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