



VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT

The Veterans and Family Support program provides care and support for our Nation's Heroes and their families. It is at the very heart of our organization. The main focal points for the program this year are:

1. VFW based Veterans Assistance Programs
2. Veterans' Mental Health Awareness
3. Veteran and Veteran Spouses Employment

VETERANS AND MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAMS

- National Veterans Service (NVS)
NVS is a nationwide network of nearly 300 VFW Service Officers who help Veterans and their families navigate the VA system. They help with disability compensation, rehab, educational programs, pension & death benefits, employment & training, and quality health care.
 - a. To donate to this fund, mail your check to:
VFW National Headquarters, ATTN: NVS, 406 W34th. Street 11th Floor
KCMO 64111
- Military Assistance Program (MAP funds)
MAP helps VFW and Auxiliary members give more to their local military units by providing financial assistance for moral boosting events, send offs, homecomings, and get togethers. If you choose to participate in **Adopt-A-Unit**, MAP can help (application found on Department's program page and must be completed online). It also keeps the care packages circulating by covering the postage.
- Unmet Needs
Unmet needs is there to help active duty service members in the form of a \$1,500 grant to assist with a financial hardship.
- Sports Clips Help a Hero Scholarship
Awards up to \$5,000 to qualifying Veterans or current service members to complete their educational goals.

VETERANS' MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS

- **Veteran and military suicide prevention**

Confidential support is available 24 hours a day/7 days a week/365 days a year.

Support for deaf and hearing impaired individuals is available.

- a. Call: 988 (press 1). (Tip: add this number to your cell phone for easy access.)
- b. Send a text message to: 838255
- c. Chat online at: veteranscrisisline.net
- d. Call 1-800-MYVA411 (1-800-698-2411) to access all VA Departments

EMPLOYMENT ASSISTANCE FOR VETERANS AND SPOUSES

- Often when a service member separates from the military it's difficult to adapt to the civilian world and work force. Their spouse may experience the same difficulty because of multiple relocations. They need to know that we are ready to assist them in offering resources.

- a. Share the websites below:

VA Careers

<http://vacareers.va.gov>

DoD Spouse Education & Career Opportunities

<https://myseco.militaryonesource.mil/portal/>

U.S Dept. of Labor employment resources for Veteran's & Spouses

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/vets/veterans>

- b. Consider working with local employers to host a job fair or a job skills seminar for local veterans or their spouses.

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