

# VFW FACT SHEET



**As the nation's oldest major veterans' organization,** the VFW has an impeccable and longstanding record of service and stewardship. More than 4 million patriotic Americans, both members and non-members, entrust the VFW with financial contributions and dedicate millions of volunteer hours.



**YOUR DONATION OF**

# \$20

**ENSURES THE VFW CAN**

- ★ Educate 30 separating service members on how to receive their well-earned VA benefits
- ★ Provide 500 minutes of phone time to homesick American troops stationed overseas
- ★ Serve 5 morale-boosting "welcome home" meals for service members recently back from combat
- ★ Help cover rent, utilities or groceries for a military family struggling with the hardships of war

## 1,707

Number of VFW-accredited representatives across America and abroad, helping veterans fight for the VA benefits they have earned.

## 7.6+ million

Number of connections between deployed service members and loved ones made possible by the VFW's "Free Call Days."

## \$6.9 billion

The amount in VA benefits the VFW network helped more than 284,000 veterans recover in the last three years.

## 1,980,490

Number of service members and their family members hosted at VFW Military Assistance Program (MAP) events since 2005.

## 30

Number of times the VFW has testified before Congress in the last 12 months alone. The VFW has been instrumental in virtually every major legislative victory for veterans in the 20th and 21st centuries.

## \$3.4 million

Amount of scholarships, monetary awards and other incentives the VFW distributes annually to middle and high school students through two major patriotic essay competitions.

## \$5.4 million

Value of financial assistance awarded to military families since 2004 to help cover basic needs in times of crisis. Nearly 48% of the funds covered basic housing needs.

## \$1.5+ million

Amount of scholarships awarded to more than 425 veterans and service members through VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" since January 2014.

Learn more about the VFW's programs and services at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org).

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## NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.®

# MORE FACTS ABOUT THE VFW



## IMPROVING LIFE IN AMERICA

### 8.9 million

Number of volunteer hours contributed by VFW members annually.

### \$49.3 million

Amount donated annually to local community service projects by VFW members.

## HONORING THE FALLEN

### 10 million

Number of VFW “Buddy”® Poppies distributed by the VFW last year.

### \$13 million

Amount raised through the VFW “Buddy”® Poppy program for needy veterans.

## THE VFW BY THE NUMBERS

### Nearly 1.7 million

Number of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.

### 6,731

Number of VFW Posts worldwide.

## HELPING VETERANS GET JUSTICE

### 75,101

Number of favorable VA claims filed by the VFW's nationwide force of VA-accredited service officers in 2014.

### 12,214

Number of VA claims filed by VFW Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) offices in 2014.

### 18

Number of Benefits Delivery at Discharge offices across the nation, including the military district of Washington, D.C., area.

## HELPING STRUGGLING MILITARY FAMILIES

### 3,806

Number of grants provided to military families facing financial hardship through *VFW Unmet Needs* since 2004.

### \$2,576,072

Amount of grants provided through *VFW Unmet Needs* covering housing for struggling military families since 2004.

### 1,989

Number of military families who received assistance with housing needs since 2004.

## INSPIRING PATRIOTISM IN YOUNG PEOPLE

### 37,805

Number of high school students who competed in the 2014-15 Voice of Democracy competition.

### 125,446

Number of students who competed in the 2014-15 Patriot's Pen competition.

The VFW has fought  
for veterans and their  
families since 1899.