

TEXAS VFW

THE DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



THE REST OF THE STORY

POCKET GUIDE

THE VFW



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.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS



Travel
Services



Medical
Services



Financial
Services



Transitioning
to civilian life



Insurance



Haircuts



End of Life
Services



VFW National
Home



Retail
Discounts



Technology &
Electronics

YOUR
\$ 35
MEMBERSHIP

-  **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.



VFW

BY THE
NUMBERS

1,800

VFW ACCREDITED REPRESENTATIVES

across America and abroad, helping veterans fight for the VA benefits they have earned.

+7.6M

CONNECTIONS

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

+2M

SERVICE MEMBERS

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

27

TESTIMONIES 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.

8.9M

VOLUNTEER HOURS

contributed by VFW members annually.

10M

**VFW "BUDDY" ®
POPPIES**

distributed by the VFW last year.

1.7M

**VFW & AUXILIARY
MEMBERS**

6,663

**VFW POSTS
WORLDWIDE**

19

**BENEFITS DELIVERY
AT DISCHARGE**

offices across the nation, including the military district of Washington, D.C., area.

36,435

**HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS**

who competed in the 2015-16 Voice of Democracy competition.

3,888

GRANTS PROVIDED

to military families facing financial hardship through VFW Unmet Needs since 2004.

132,162

**STUDENTS WHO
COMPETED**

in the 2015-16 Patriot's Pen competition.

13,279

VA CLAIMS FILED

by VFW Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) offices in 2015.

2,041

MILITARY FAMILIES

who received assistance with housing needs since 2004.

66,913

**FAVORABLE VA
CLAIMS FILED**

by the VFW's nationwide force of VA-accredited service officers in 2015.

\$4.5B

IN VA BENEFITS

the VFW network helped more than 255,000 veterans recover in the last three years.

\$3.3M

IN SCHOLARSHIPS, MONETARY AWARDS

and other incentives the VFW distributes annually to middle and high school students through two major patriotic essay competitions.

\$5.6M

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.

\$2.4M

OF SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

to more than 580 veterans and service members through VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" since January 2014.

\$49.3M

**DONATED
ANNUALLY TO
LOCAL**

community service projects
by VFW members.

\$13M

RAISED

through the VFW "Buddy"
® Poppy program for
needy veterans.

\$2.7M

OF GRANTS

provided through VFW
Unmet Needs covering
housing for struggling
military families since
2004.

**END OF BY THE
NUMBERS**



VFW

**PRIORITY
GOALS**

SUPPORT TODAY'S VETERANS & MILITARY

Help us ensure that an adequate VA system will be there for the millions of current and future veterans.

When you visit your congressional representatives, please stress that these are the issues we will be fighting for in the 114th Congress. These goals reflect the resolutions passed and supported by the men and women of the VFW and our Auxiliaries.

To find out who your congressional representatives are, visit the VFW website at www.vfw.org and click the "VFW in D.C." Action Corps link.

HEALTH CARE

Modernize VA's scheduling system to ensure VA's scheduling process is seamless, veteran centric and not susceptible to data manipulation.

Expand the current caregiver benefits to those who care for severely injured, ill and wounded veterans of all eras.

Strengthen VA and DOD mental health programs.

Expand women's health care services to all VA medical centers.

Properly fund homeless veterans programs.

BUDGET

Provide sufficient funding for all VA Budget accounts.

ACCOUNTABILITY

Design Performance Measures that capture VA employees' quality of work not just quantity.

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

Hold VBA accountable for the backlog of all claims and appeals.

MILITARY QUALITY OF LIFE

Protect service members' and their family members' on-base quality of life programs.

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE

Conduct discharge reviews for veterans who suffer from PTSD/TBI and who were discharged under Other Than Honorable conditions.

DEFENSE/HOMELAND SECURITY

Fully support U.S. troops and their mission to fight the war on terrorism, as well as to protect our nation's citizens and interests around the world.

EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

Invest in developing small business opportunities for veterans.

Ensure service members receive civilian credentials or academic credit for the professional training they receive during service.

POW/MIA

Achieve the fullest possible accounting of U.S. military personnel missing from all wars.

Ensure Congress fully funds the POW/MIA Accounting mission.

PLAY A ROLE IN THE PROCESS

Ensure that these Priority Goals are enacted. Sign up today for the VFW's Action Corps Weekly e-newsletter at www.vfw.org/weekly.

**END OF
PRIORITY GOALS**

Contact Us



WWW.TEXASVFW.ORG



512-834-8535



8503 N I-H 35,
AUSTIN, TX



@TEXASVFW