

VFW Diverse Endeavors

VFW honors veterans through memorial fundraising efforts, sponsorship of special events for disabled vets, and by recognizing volunteer service. Donations also help victims of natural disasters and less-fortunate children.

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Special Events

• **Honoring Disabled Vets**

VFW sponsors special trips for Purple Heart recipients. Past events include “Return to Vietnam” and other events.

• **“Run for the Wall”**

VFW support the annual “Run for the Wall,” a cross country motorcycle ride to the Vietnam Memorial in Washington D.C. The VFW sponsors refueling for all participating riders during a scheduled stop near the VFW National Headquarters.

• **Disabled Veterans Hunt**

VFW annually pays for an all-expense paid trip for disabled war veterans to go to South Dakota for a VFW Pheasant Hunt.

Memorials

In fulfilling its pledge to remember the nation’s war dead, VFW promotes national memorials for veterans of all wars. Additionally, thousands of memorials have been constructed across the nation through local VFW Posts.

• **National WWI Memorial**

VFW gave the memorial a \$350,000 grant to help expand the Liberty Memorial Museum, which houses the nation's most comprehensive collection of World War I historical materials.

• **National WWII Memorial**

VFW reached its five-year fundraising goal of \$6 million for the memorial’s construction in only two years. The donation ranks as the largest from any veterans group, and second overall.

• **Korean War Memorial**

Members donated \$600,000 toward the construction of the Korean War Memorial. The donation ranks among the highest.

• **Vietnam Veterans Memorial**

VFW contributed over \$300,000 toward building “The Wall”— all 58,000 Americans who died as a result of the Vietnam War are listed. VFW was the first major organization to contribute.

• **Women in Military Service to America Memorial**

VFW contributed \$70,000 toward construction costs.

• **Disabled Veterans for Life Memorial**

VFW contributed \$100,000 toward construction costs.

• **Vietnam Veterans Education Center**

VFW contributed over \$648,000 toward the construction of the Education Center.

• **National Museum of the United States Army**

VFW contributed \$500,000 toward the construction of the Veterans Hall in the museum.

• **National Desert Storm Memorial**

VFW donated \$100,000 toward its \$500,000 pledge for the construction of the National Desert Storm Memorial.

Awards

Outstanding police officers, firefighters, EMTs and other first responders are recognized annually by VFW for their work in the community.

National Home for Children

Children, youth and family of VFW and Auxiliary members who have nowhere to turn find a safe haven on this 629-acre VFW campus in Eaton Rapids, Mich. The privately funded facility is a living memorial to VFW and to all veterans.

Disaster Relief

Since 1964, VFW National Headquarters has donated over \$2.5 million in grants to state VFW relief efforts, including \$560,000 for Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and \$100,000 aid to the VFW Department of California following the 2007 California wildfires. VFW also raised over \$20,000 to assist service members with family in Haiti following the January 2010 earthquake, and in 2011 VFW provided over \$145,000 in aid to military families living in tornado-stricken areas. Since 2012, the VFW provided over \$120,000 in aid for Hurricane Sandy victims on the East Coast. In 2013, VFW provided \$30,000 for tornado-stricken victims in Moore, Okla., and \$30,000 for

flood victims in Colorado. In 2015, VFW provided \$10,000 to the Pacific Areas for typhoon relief. In 2016, VFW provided \$25,000 to Louisiana for flood relief.