

# Veteran's and Family Support – August

How can you support the National Veterans Service (NVS), Military Assistance Program (MAP), Unmet Needs, Sports Clips for Hero Scholarship?

- Announce in joint sessions about the programs. Many of the Post members may not be aware of its existence.
- Know who the Service Officer is for your Post, work closely with them in case there is a need that arises. Many times, a veteran who is not a member will not know anyone. Make everyone welcome and see if there is anything that can be done to help.
- Host a fundraiser to either gather direct aid or monetary donations. This can even be an online auction or silent auction if your Post happens to be open.
- Many businesses today have Veteran's committees or groups. Ask around and work with them. I am a member of the Veteran's committee where I work, and we are always looking for projects to help with. Also, these groups may not be aware of the VFW or its Auxiliary. One helping hand, or even a sincere offer, can really get some attention.
- Senior adult care facilities have veterans who still want to feel then contribute. If the facility is non-profit, they might need a community outreach project and be willing to partner. Work with them to recognize their Veterans and make them feel remembered.
- Find your local homeless assistance group and see if they have a Veteran's outreach. I know in the Metro Atlanta area there are a number and they all work together. Some of our Veterans prefer to be homeless, that is a fact of life. But being homeless does not mean becoming invisible.
- Work with other volunteer groups – sewing circles, quilt guilds, woodworking enthusiasts, animal rehabilitation groups, and many more. These groups many times are looking for a group that will use what they work on and give it a good home. I am a member of the Quilts of Valor Foundation. We make and award quilts to veterans to honor their service.

**Important reminder** – any programs you complete also count towards Veterans and Family Support so do not forget those when you send your reports. Recommend to your chair that they keep a running report and not try to do it all at one time.

I prefer email or text for reports but will also accept if mailed.

John Finch, Chair

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