

Veterans and Family Support

September 2018

* The Veterans & Family Support Program covers many important areas to help veterans especially through the **National Veterans Service (NVS) program**. The NVS program will help veterans who are ready to file a claim with VA Claims & Separations Benefits.

Spread the word and tell a veteran about the NVS program, this could be the most important information you can give to them, as navigating the VA system can be a frustrating process.

According to Donna Mills, VFW Auxiliary-Veterans & Family Support National Ambassador 2018-2019, "the VFW National Service program has helped to recover more than \$7.2 billion in earned VA benefits every year, has more than 1,900 service officers in locations worldwide, provides at least 80 hours of training and exams to its accredited service officers every year, helps more than 135,000 veterans file VA claims every year and their services are **ALWAYS FREE**, providing a lifetime of advocacy for veterans as their health or life circumstances change."

Accredited Service Officers are there for any veteran to

- **Guide them through the VA Claim process**
- **Clarify any VA Health Care Concerns**
- **Work with those filing pre-discharge claims**
- **Understand the GI Bill benefits**
- **Aid in transitioning from military to civilian life**

To find an accredited Service Officer visit <https://www.vfw.org/assistance/va-claims-separation-benefits> or ask for help at your Post. On the right side of the website page, select a state, click on the "GO" button and you will be given a list of NVS Service Officers in your State.

* The **VFW's Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship** is sponsored by **Sports Clips**. The VFW has announced that more than 4 million dollars in scholarships have been awarded to more than 943 military & student veterans by this partnership. Sports Clips has donated at least \$1.26 Million dollars to the program. Thank you to all who supported this program by getting a hair cut from Sports Clips.

Scholarship applications for the Spring Semester are being accepted August 1 through November 15, 2018. Scholarships are awarded for Spring Semester in January 2019. Applications for the VFW's Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship can be found on the VFW Website at <http://www.vfw.org/scholarship>.

Reminder: The Veterans & Family Support program includes, VFW's Sports Clips Help A Hero Scholarship, Unmet Needs, Operation Uplink and Military Assistance Program (MAP). These programs service active-duty and recently discharged military.

We need to **Share Wonderful Auxiliary Projects/Programs (SWAP)** while we stand tall & proud to help all veterans. VFW Auxiliary National President Sandy Kriebel's theme of "I Believe We Can Do It" is truly a motivational theme to go that extra mile for America's Heroes!

Mary Anne Kreutz VFW Auxiliary-Veterans & Family Support Chairman 2018-2019-17511 Vintage St. Northridge, Ca 91325, 1(818) 425-9448, mamakreutz@sbcglobal.net