



October 2023 -24

Veterans and Family Support



Department of California
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Veterans are our Number 1 priority!



October is Agent Orange Awareness Month; a time in which communities around the world can learn about the dangerous chemical Agent Orange and how it affected American veterans and Vietnamese civilians.

Agent Orange exposure and VA disability compensation

If you know a Veteran that has a health condition caused by exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange during their service, they may be eligible for VA disability compensation. Compensation provides tax-free monthly payments. Refer that Veteran to their local Service Officer or the VA for additional information. Together we can bring light to Agent Orange and its continuing impact on our Vietnam Veterans and their families.

Light orange candles on a table at your Post and have reference materials available.

Our Auxiliary members offer support to the military community in many different ways, whether that means helping military families get through long deployments or hosting send-off and welcome home events. The VFW knows how important troop support is because all of our members have been there. This month I will highlight the Military Assistance Program (MAP)



Military Assistance Program (MAP)

Our **Military Assistance Program (MAP)** is the outstretched hand between the local VFW and military community, offering support around the world. The Military Assistance Program's (MAP) purpose is to provide financial assistance to VFW Posts/Departments and Auxiliaries who sponsor events with their local military community. These funds are meant to build relationships and provide information about VFW/Auxiliary programs and services.

A large part of MAP is the Adopt-a-Unit program, providing VFW Posts and their Auxiliaries the opportunity to adopt hundreds of military units around the world. Adopt-a-Unit's goal is to develop supportive relationships with units before, during and after deployments to help deliver the vast network of resources the VFW has available to the military. With the holiday season quickly approaching, perhaps your Auxiliary is considering sponsoring events to support our Active duty service men and women and their families- why not consider applying for financial assistance thru MAP ? Attached you will find all of the forms needed to help get you started.



National Award # 2

Be sure to apply for National awards

Award #2 is for the most outstanding activity or event to increase the support of veterans, service members, and their families.

- Citation to every Auxiliary the hosts an activity or event to increase the support of veterans, service members, and their families.
- Citation and \$25 the one Auxiliary in each of the four conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity or event to increase the support of veterans, servicemembers, and their families.

For all National Awards, you must fill out an entry form available in MALTA Member Resources.