

## VFW Diverse Endeavors

*The 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.*

### Special Events

- ***“Run for the Wall”***

Supports 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.

- ***“Uniting to Combat Hunger”***

A collaborative campaign established in 2018 with Humana. Created to combat food insecurity, while also working to raise awareness of the issue that may affect 1 in 8 people in America, and as many as 1 in 4 Iraq and Afghanistan War veterans. To date, the campaign has provided more than 4.5 million meals to those facing hunger and food insecurity.

### Memorials

In fulfilling its pledge to remember the nation’s war dead, the 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***

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. In 2017, the VFW was proud to sponsor the World War I Centennial Commemorative Ceremony at the National World War I Museum and Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri. The VFW donated \$100,000 to preserving the history of the Great War.

- ***WWI Memorial***

Donated \$300,000 to the U.S. World War I Centennial Commission for the creation of the World War I Memorial, in Washington, D.C.

- ***National WWII Memorial***

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 ranked among the highest.

- ***Vietnam Veterans Memorial***

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

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

Donated \$70,000 toward construction costs.

- ***Disabled Veterans for Life Memorial***

Donated \$100,000 toward construction costs.

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- ***Vietnam Veterans Education Center***

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

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

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

- ***National Desert Storm Memorial***

Donated \$500,000 toward the construction of the National Desert Storm Memorial.

### **Awards**

- Outstanding police officers, firefighters, EMTs and other first responders are recognized annually by the VFW for their work in the community.
- Donated \$70,000 in support of Park University's Valor Medals Review project, a research initiative to appropriately recognize those who may have been denied military service medals based on racial bias.

### **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, Michigan. The privately funded facility is a living memorial to VFW and to all veterans.