



## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY

### WISCONSIN VETERANS ASSISTANCE

March 2019

As you know, Wisconsin Veterans Assistance program consists of two separate programs and funds, administered through the Department of Wisconsin VFW: Wisconsin Unmet Needs and Emergency & Disaster.

**Emergency & Disaster Relief** is intended for any Wisconsin VFW or Auxiliary member in good standing who has sustained a loss of \$5,000 or greater to their primary residence. Applications must be submitted within 30 days of the disaster to the VFW Chairman, Lee Otto. His contact information is [lee.otto@me.com](mailto:lee.otto@me.com) or phone 920-988-8145. Applications can be found on the VFW Auxiliary website, [www.wivfwaux.org](http://www.wivfwaux.org).

As of January 15, 2019, the Emergency & Disaster Relief fund had received donations totaling \$8,702.86. I am very proud to tell you that 72 auxiliaries have donated \$6,042.86 of the total \$8,702.86 donated. Payments have been made to 11 VFW and/or Auxiliary members for \$8,250 for such disasters as fire, flooding, tornado, storm damage, and hail damage.

Donations to National or other states for major emergencies in their areas, totaled \$4,000 for wildfires on the West coast, two hurricanes and one typhoon. Occasionally when other states are having major emergencies in their area, we will donate to that state's VFW to help with their emergency situations.

**Wisconsin Unmet Needs** helps Wisconsin veterans who need help meeting their basic needs, such as utility payments, rent payments, car repairs, etc. Payments are made directly to creditors and never to the veteran. A committee reviews each application, interviews the applicant via telephone if they have questions that need further clarification and then they decide if the applicant is approved or disapproved for some payment. Currently the maximum amount that is awarded is \$1,500. Many of the applications are for smaller amounts.

As of January 15, 2019, Wisconsin Unmet Needs has received donations totaling \$20,424.88. Payments have been made to 25 veterans or families of veterans for a total of \$20,793.53. Again, the auxiliaries (you brothers and sisters) are doing a tremendous job of supporting our veterans and their families. Forty-seven (47) auxiliaries have donated \$6,030.14 of the total donations received at VFW of Wisconsin headquarters.

Now for the sad news. Of all the auxiliaries who have donated, only 21 auxiliaries have reported anything to me. I requested that you notify me of your donations, either by mail or email. You can even call me if that is easier for you, however, I prefer mail or email. It is not too late to notify me of your donations to either or both of these programs. And just a word of caution: DO NOT send checks to me. Donations are to be made out to VFW-WI, earmarked either E&D or Unmet Needs and mailed to VFW Headquarters, P. O. Box 6128, Monona, WI 53716-0128.

“Reaching for the Stars for Veterans”

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