

NATIONAL SECURITY

The purpose of the American Legion National Security Program is to promote a strong national defense by supporting servicemembers and their families.

Supporting a strong military means providing for their families or the home front. It is each unit and member's responsibility to identify these families in their local communities and ensure their day-to day needs are met before, during, and after deployment. Collaborate with the American Legion Family and other organizations and agencies that work hand in hand with service members and their families.

FOR DEADLINES AND CONTACT INFORMATION, PLEASE CONSULT THE Annual Supplement to the 2017-2022 Programs Action Plan or visit the National Security Committee page on the national website, www.ALAforVeterans.org

Most of the information on National Security posted from previous program year of 2022-2023 will be updated as received. Old information is being left posted for references purposes only until the 2022-2023 information is available.

In this packet you will also find ideas, suggestions and resources on programs available.

Jennie Molina

NEC National Security Chairperson

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NATIONAL SECURITY

Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program – a national combat veteran reintegration program organized by the Department of Defense to provide National Guard and Reserve members and their families with information, services, referral and proactive outreach opportunities throughout the entire deployment cycle. Log on to www.yellowribbon.mil to learn more about this program. From the website's homepage, click on the "for Providers" link on the left-hand side to learn how Units and Departments can become involved.

Operation Homefront – Operation Homefront, a nonprofit organization, provides emergency and morale assistance for our troops, the families they leave behind, and for wounded warriors when they return home.

Family Readiness Groups – Their mission is to help military families manage the challenges that are often faced following a deployment. Auxiliary Units can contact Family Readiness Groups on military installations and in Reserve or National Guard facilities to see how they can help.

Family Support Network - Provides a broad range of services to help families cope with the unique challenges of deployments. To address these issues, The American Legion has a nationwide toll-free telephone number, (800) 504-4098, for servicemembers and their family members to call for assistance. They also can e-mail requests to familysupport@legion.org.

Operation Comfort Warriors – a program dedicated to meeting the needs of wounded and ill warriors, either hospitalized or in warrior transition Units, with comfort items not usually supplied by the government.

Heroes to Hometown – Service members and their families seeking assistance can call (202) 621-9924 or e-mail heroestohometowns@legion.org.

Gold Star Banner and Blue Star Banner Programs - POW/MIA Initiatives - Citizen Corps - ROTC and JROTC – Food Distribution – Clothing - Police/Fire Explorers – US Savings Bonds – CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Team)

Resources

1. American Legion Auxiliary Gateway to Services - www.legion-aux.org
2. Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program - <http://www.yellowribbon.mil/>
www.jointservicesupport.org/YRRP

NATIONAL SECURITY ANNUAL REPORT FORM 2022-2023

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN BY MAY 1, 2023 to
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NAME AND NUMBER OF UNIT _____ MEMBERSHIP COUNT _____

UNIT CHAIRMAN _____ HOME ADDRESS _____

Did your Unit participate in any of the following???

CERT Program:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

POW/MIA presentations:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

YELLOW RIBBONS:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

BLUE STAR BANNER:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

GOLD STAR BANNER:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

USO Support:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

ROTC/JROTC Programs:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

BLOOD DONOR Program:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

WELCOME HOME Project:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

NATIONAL SECURITY & CHILDREN and YOUTH PROGRAM:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

MILITARY FAMILY READINESS GROUPS:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

OPERATION COMFORT WARRIORS:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

OTHER ITEMS: yard work, social calls, child care, cooking meals:

Y or N How many? _____ Members/ ALA ____ TAL ____ SAL ____ Hours ____ Cost ____

Is your Unit entering a narrative for the Department Plaque?

1. Steffen Memorial Plaque for Units with membership of 150 and under **Y or N**
2. Speth Plaque for Units with membership of 151 and over **Y or N**
3. Helen Johnson Bone Civil preparedness (cert) plaque **Y or N**

Is your Unit entering a narrative for a National Award? If so be sure to let me know.



SALUTE TO SERVICEMEMBERS AWARD NOMINATION FORM

Established in 2003, this award has evolved from honoring women veterans to honoring active-duty women to honoring all enlisted personnel who are currently serving our country in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, Space Force, and the National Guard/Reserve.

One enlisted servicemember from each branch of service as well as the National Guard/Reserve will be recognized at the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention. Recipients will attend the National Convention as guests of the Auxiliary.

Nomination Eligibility

- A servicemember currently serving in the United States Armed Forces.

Nomination Requirements:

- The nominating person submits a narrative discussing the reason for the nomination
- The servicemember writes a narrative (750 words or less) and creates a video (3 minutes or less) that shows them discussing their service both in and out of uniform.
- The servicemember must be willing to be a guest of the Auxiliary and speak to the general assembly of the American Legion Auxiliary National Convention.
- Endorsement from a member of their command group must be included.
- The nominating form, along with all supporting documentation, must be completed and submitted by June 1, 2023, to National Security Vice-Chairman Wendy Riggle. Written narratives should be attached via email. Video links should be pasted in the box provided on the following form.

YouTube or other Video Checklist for Servicemember

Criteria for video submission; please be sure that your video contains:

- does not contain any copyrighted music, video, images, or text (not legally owned)
- is not set to "private;" your video must be public.
- is under 2GB in size
- is in .AVI, .MOV, .WMV, or .MPG file formats
- is 3 minutes or less in length

NATIONAL SECURITY PLAQUES

Steffen Memorial Plaque for Units with membership of 150 and under
Speth Plaque for Units with membership of 151 and over

PURPOSE:

To promote, stimulate, and activate a strong National Security Program within the Unit and Community.

RULES:

1. Any Unit in the Department of Arizona may receive one of these awards in their membership classification.
2. Either plaque shall become the permanent property of the Unit winning it for three (3) consecutive years. The permanent winner will place another plaque in the Department competition, rules and name remaining the same.
3. A committee of three shall judge entries prior to the Department Convention; judges being the Department National Security Chairman, donor if possible, and/or former National Security Chairmen.
4. Entry must be in narrative typewritten form not to exceed 1,000 words and included with Department report by deadline date.

BASIS FOR AWARDS ARE:

1. All around National Security program as outlined by the National Plan of Works for current year: 50%
2. Unit participation in Welcome Home for Troops: 5%
3. Unit contribution to USO: 5%
4. Unit participation: Military Family Readiness Groups: 5%
5. Unit participation: Operation Homefront: 5%
6. Unit activities: POW/MIA program: 5%
7. Unit participation: Yellow Ribbon program: 5%
8. Unit participation: National Security/Children and Youth Conference: 5%
9. Unit participation: Blue Star/Gold Star Banner Program: 5%
10. Unit participation: Operation Comfort Warriors: 5%
11. Unit Support of ROTC/JROTC: 5%

(revised 2017)