



# VFW Auxiliary

## **Veterans & Family Support 2024-2025**

***Dept. of New York President-Darlene Baker***

***National Ambassador- Evan Smiley  
Department of New York Chairman-Dee Ippolito***

**Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes®**



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## **Military Family Month**

- November is “Military Family Month.”
- Annual proclamation marks the beginning of a month-long celebration of the Military Family.
- Military families are recognized for their commitment and contribution in their support of our military and our nation.



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## Military Family Month



Unwavering Support for Uncommon Heroes®



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- **National Veterans Service (NVS)**
- 5 VFW Service Officers-Buffalo, NYC
- Trained to help veterans and family members navigate the Veterans Affairs system.



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## Veterans and Military Support Program (VMS)

- *Military Assistance Program (MAP)*-provides financial assistance for posts, districts and departments to sponsor send-offs homecomings and get-togethers—ways to connect to troops
- *Sports Clips Help a Hero Scholarships*-up to \$5000 to help veterans complete their educational goals.
- *Unmet Needs*-help in a crisis-soldier serving overseas and rent is due, car broke down. Grants up to \$1500 paid to creditor.



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- **Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention**
- Mindfulness
- Stop 22 Walks
- Contact Suicide Coalition in your area.
- Contact VA in your area for Suicide Awareness information
- Crisis Line 988 option 1



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## Acts of Kindness

Examples-

*Take a veteran to an appointment.*

*Make and take meals to veteran.*

*Help a veteran's family member.*

*Thanksgiving dinners.*

*Gifts for families, ETC.*



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## *Holiday Cheer/Trees for Troops*

- Trees, menorahs and decorations are sent each year to our military serving overseas.
- \$25/tree/decorations/menorahs.







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## *In Lieu of Cards*



**The CARD accompanies the trees, menorahs and decorations being sent overseas to our troops.**

**Helps defray cost of sending trees, menorahs and decorations overseas.**

**\$5/signature**



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## Disaster Assistance

***Donate*** to help those affected by affected by  
Hurricanes Helene and Milton.

***Write check(s) to:*** VFW Auxiliary-Dept of New York

***Send Check(s) to:*** D. Ippolito, Veterans and Family Support  
Chairman, 24 Blue Jay Circle, Lancaster, NY 14086.



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Report!

Report

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## Additional Ideas

- December – Wrap It Up Day – wrap gifts with proceeds to benefit a specific program
- January – Pancakes for Pennies
- February – 50's Prom Night or Sock Hop
- March – March Madness or Game Day Tailgate Party



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Thank you for all you do everyday for our  
Veterans, Families, Community!

**D. Ippolito, VFS Chairman 2024-2025**

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*“Soaring into the Next Century of Service with Our Veterans and Their Families”*