

VETERANS & MILITARY SUPPORT PROGRAM

2025-2026

The Department of Kansas National Military Services (NMS) program is a vital link in our support of the men and women of the US Military. We support them with our time, money and influence because we've been there, we've endured similar circumstances so who better to understand the daily sacrifices they are making today to defend our country.

NMS promotes positive awareness of the VFW through community involvement, communication tools, and financial support to qualified military service members. With the variety of support offered, three separate programs were developed under the VFW National Military Services department. These programs are the **Operation Uplink**, **Military Assistance Program** and **Unmet Needs**.

OPERATION UPLINK The program is the only one of its kind, providing two designated days each month when deployed service members making phone calls from their Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR) center to the U.S., and other home base location land lines, are greeted by a recording which states the call will be **free**, courtesy of **Operation Uplink**. VFW and Auxiliary members, as well as other caring citizens, generously support the program.

Virtual PINS are available for deployed active duty military personnel who are stationed outside of Afghanistan/Kuwait, who do not have access to a SPAWAR cafe, deployed Chaplains for emergencies or for hospitalized veterans (VA or military Hospitals). <http://www.vfw.org/Forms/Request-a-Phone-Card/>

UNMET NEEDS Helps to meet unanticipated financial demands on our service members' families that can't be remedied through existing means and provides our service members with the security of knowing that their families have additional support here at home. Provides grants up to \$2,500

Expenses eligible for assistance:

- Housing expenses – mortgage, rent, repairs, insurance
- Vehicle expenses – payments, insurance, repairs
- Utilities and primary phone
- Food and incidentals
- Children's clothing, diapers, formula, necessary school or childcare expenses
- Medical bills, prescriptions & eyeglasses – the patient's portion for necessary or emergency medical care only

Eligibility criteria is found here: http://www.vfw.org/uploadedFiles/VFWorg/MY_VFW/unmetneedscriteria%2023-11.pdf

MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (MAP) The link between the VFW and the local military, offering our support around the world. MAP includes the Adopt-a-Unit program. Through Adopt-a-Unit, VFW and its Auxiliary adopt 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 resources VFW has available for the military.
http://www.vfw.org/uploadedFiles/VFWorg/MY_VFW/AAUmerged3292010.pdf

WHY should you Adopt-A-Unit?

To support the military families from your local community.
As VFW members, you understand the challenges military families face.
To help deliver the vast network of resources the VFW has available.
Adopt-A-Unit activities are great opportunities for recruiting.
They're FUN!

<http://www.vfw.org/TroopSupport/>

NMS at the national HQ is there to help – Call them Toll Free: 1-866-789-6333 with any questions or assistance. They're great to work with and will support us at the post, district or department level.

We know your support at the Post level goes far beyond what is reported. **Please report your events to your Department NMS Chairman.**

Patrick Briggs
1018 S Grand Ave
Lyons, KS 67554
(620) 474-1896
Pmbriggs_48@hotmail.com