## 2024-2025 VFW National Home Program

The goal of the Department of Michigan VFW National Home Program is to promote the VFW National Home to our VFW members, the community of veterans outside of our membership, and to the community at large. Through our efforts we must educate our members and the public at large of the unique programing offered by the National Home serving veterans and their families at the VFW National Home, opening the door to broader support of the Home's mission.

## **Support the VFW National Home:**

There are two ways to support the VFW National Home: monetarily or volunteering.

Monetary donations, either personnel or through Post relief funds, are requested to be made directly to the VFW National Home. When donations are made directly to the National Home and you want credit to be given to your Post for your donation simply inform State Headquarters of your donation by phone, by email or by FAX a note of your name, Post number, amount and date of donation. Your Post will be given credit for your generous donation.

Donations made to VFW State Headquarters will be held by the Department in a restricted fund to either be used for a special project or to be presented as a lump sum to the National Home on Michigan Day in August of each year. In January 2024 for example the Department received a special request from the National Home for assistance in the purchase of a Gator with snowplow and salter. The Department immediately responded with the consent of the CofA and purchased the Gator with the requested equipment. We are currently collecting funds to offset the cost of this donation. Your donation to the Department for the National Home to support this fundraising effort that provided much needed equipment to the National Home is appreciated.

Donations made directly to the National Home may be earmarked for several purposes such as support of the Michigan House generously sponsored by the Department of Michigan, Auxiliary and Military Order of the Cootie Grand of Michigan, which is currently very well-funded; to support the resident Christmas gift program which gives the children an opportunity to select gifts for family and friends or support the various afterschool educational and recreational programs provided by the Home.

Please visit the VFW National Home website, **vfwnationalhome.org**, to learn more about the opportunities to support the National Home with your generous gifts or through opportunities for group volunteers on special projects at the National Home. Volunteer opportunities directly with the children are very limited due to State of Michigan licensing restrictions. If you would like to volunteer (group or individuals) please contact the National Home directly at 1-800-424-8360.

Your support of the National Home can earn your Post credit for All-State program honors. Please consult the Department Post All-State program to learn more.

## Michigan Day at the VFW National Home:

Michigan Day at the VFW National Home is typically the first Sunday in August. This year it will be on August 11 due to VFW National Convention. Michigan Day is a great opportunity to

represent your Post at the National Home, tour the campus and learn more about this 99 year old experiment to provide support to our comrades and their families.

On the Friday before Michigan Day each year the Departments of Michigan and Ohio join together enjoy a "friendly" interstate fundraising golf tournament to raise funds for the National Home. A Golf Tournament team application will be posted on this website as soon as the tournament has been scheduled.

Also on Michigan Day the Department of Michigan collects cleaning supplies for the National Home and residents in another "friendly" challenge with the Department Ohio. who did a similar collection the day before on Ohio Day. Bring your cleaning supply donation to Michigan Day and help clean up Ohio. The list of cleaning supplies requested is provided on a separate form on this webpage.

## **Become a Life Member:**

Becoming a life member of the VFW National Home is one way to invest in the mission of providing housing and program support to our veterans and families who are in need of a helping hand. Life membership will grant you a vote for trustees representing their National Home District and proposed Bylaw or Articles of Incorporation Changes.

For the next 18 months, until December 31, 2025, the National Home is offering a special Centennial Life Membership program. Join the National Home in celebrating its forthcoming 100th year anniversary by becoming a Centennial Life Member. You can sign up on the National Home website.

Visit the National Home website to learn more about the opportunities that the National programs offer to children and to veterans and their families and other ways you can support the National Home's mission.

Visit the VFW National Home and take a tour. 3573 S. Waverly Rd Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 Call 517-663-1521 to arrange a personal tour

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