



# **VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY**

**171 JERSEY STREET TRENTON, NJ 08611 (609) 393-1929**

5/18  
meeting

## **NJVFW Veterans Assistance Program (VAP)**

To: All VFW and Auxiliary members

Subject: 2018 / 2019 Joint State Project

Commander Sarmiento and President Eith have agreed to participate in a joint State Project which will benefit and assist veterans residing in New Jersey.

The Department currently maintains a Military Assistance Program (MAP) which has assisted veterans, military personnel and their families. This program is often confused with our National MAP program and with the exception of donations made at our State Convention very minimal funds have been donated to the program by Posts or individuals. The name change to NJVFW Veterans Assistance Program (VAP) should avoid confusion between our Department and National programs.

The VAP program will be our joint project for 2018 / 2019. The program is not meant to replace the local Posts Relief Fund nor their obligations to assist worthy comrades, veterans and families. We believe this valuable program will allow the VFW to lend a hand up and not a hand out to our NJ Veterans. Funds will only be distributed for the aid, assistance, relief and comfort of needy or disabled veterans or members of the Armed Forces and their dependents. All funds will be distributed by the Department Quartermaster and all requests will be approved or disapproved by a four (4) member committee appointed by the Department Commander and President.

Commander Sarmiento and President Eith encourage all VFW and Auxiliary Districts, Posts and individual members to contribute to this worthwhile program and to prove to the world that **"No one does more for veterans than the VFW"**.

# NJVFW Veterans Assistance Program

(Formerly NJVFW MAP Program)

- The purpose of this fund is to assist veterans living in the State of NJ with financial need.
- This fund does not replace the VFW Post Relief fund, but is designed to work in conjunction with it.
- included but **NOT** limited to examples of financial assistance:
  - Purchasing materials for ramps and to make house handicap accessible.
  - Make necessary one time payments for gas or electric or other "necessities" if the veteran's falls behind on payments.
  - Purchase batteries for electric wheelchairs/scooters.
  - Assist veterans with security deposits on apartments
  - Purchase gift cards for food for needy veterans.
  - Emergency vehicle repairs
  - Emergency Housing
- Funds from this account will **NOT** be used to pay cable bills, car payments, mortgages, cell phone bills or any other bill not deemed a necessity.
- 100% of all donations will be placed in a dedicated account with the NJVFW and only expenditures for veteran's assistance are authorized from this account.
- The maximum allowable assistance to any veteran is \$599.00 within a calendar year.
- The veteran does not need to belong to the VFW but will need complete an application form and show his/her discharge showing proof of active duty service. Dishonorable and Other than Honorable discharges disqualify the veteran for this assistance. "Active Duty for training purposes" does not qualify for this financial assistance. The veteran will need to provide documentation/Utility bill showing the need for the financial assistance.
- All monies from this fund will be paid directly to the vendor. If any money is to be paid to the veteran directly, it will be decided on a case by case basis by the committee.
- The committee will be made up of Ken Hagemann, Jeff Walding, Bob Jonas and a representative from the NJVFW Auxiliary to chosen by the NJVFW Aux President.

