



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY SUPPORT TOOLS

A collection of resources from National Headquarters to assist and guide members and volunteers in serving veterans, servicemembers and their families.

Volunteer: Engage
Section 10, Page 1 of 1
Last Updated 5/22/12

How to Identify Veteran and Servicemember Families who are In Need of Assistance

The key to finding a family in need is not about who you know, but rather who knows about the American Legion Auxiliary. It behooves a unit to be visible in its community. Let the community know that your unit is willing to help veterans, servicemembers and their families during hard times, both financially and practically. When you meet with individuals in need, assure them that the unit is ready to assist in any capacity, and have a flyer or business card (see sample below) to distribute. Ask organizations to share the unit's contact information (or point of contact) with any veteran, servicemember or their families who may need assistance. In this manner, a family's confidential information is not being given out indiscriminately. The veteran or family member can contact you when they are ready. Consider being available around the clock, as emergencies happen at all hours. Record the voice mail message to clearly state calls will be returned within 24 hours. If the veteran or family needs something the unit cannot provide, it is recommended that the unit go out into the community on the person's behalf and get the service donated or sold at a reduced cost. One way in which the unit can meet the financial cost of assistance for families in need is to host a fundraiser.

Who Could Refer Veterans, Servicemembers and Families to the Auxiliary?

- Family Readiness Group (FRGs)
- Interservice Family Assistance Committee (ISFAC)
- The American Legion and other Military Service Obligation and Veterans Service Organizations (i.e., Disabled American Veterans (DAV) and Operation Homefront)
- vet centers, domiciliaries for homeless veterans and local organizations that provide similar services
- county and state Veterans Administration offices
- Veterans Administration certifying officer(s)
 - at colleges and universities
- local organizations that send care packages and letters to deployed servicemembers

Possible Areas of Assistance:

Based on requests received by the Family Support Network hotline at The American Legion National Headquarters, the most popular services needed include the following:

- transportation assistance, including help with a vehicle
- childcare
- temporary financial assistance
- lawn maintenance and minor/major house repairs
- emotional support
- The possibilities are endless—every situation is different!

Are you a veteran or military family in need?

**American Legion
Auxiliary Main City
Unit 1234 would
like to assist you!**



We are willing to assist with any childcare, temporary financial assistance, transportation assistance, or help you with whatever you might need. We are available for you 24/7! Contact us to see how we can help you!

235 Main St
Main City, IN 45678
Phone (987) 654-3210
E-mail: pres@unit1234.org