**NATIONAL SECURITY**

Program Action Plan

2018 – 2019

**What is this program, and why do we have it?**

The National Security Program maintains and promotes a strong national defense by strengthening and supporting military active duty service members and their families.

**What can we do**

**Support the emotional and social needs of active, reserve and transitioning military service members and their families.**

* **Supporting our USO (United Service Organizations),** is a very important part of our mission as this is our service members’ “home away from home”. Some of the many services they provide are: Establishing and maintaining the Welcome Centers for traveling active duty military and their families at major airports, conducting special morale-raising events, “No Dough Dinners”, back to school drives and holiday drives, honoring families of the fallen, participating in welcome home greetings, and seeing our service members off on deployments. There are 3 area locations in Florida:
* USO Northwest (Pensacola has 4 locations) Contact Director Dana Cervantes, Email is: dcervantes@uso.org
* USO Jacksonville (has 3 locations) Contact Director of Operations Bob Ross, Email is: bross@usojax.com,
* USO Central Florida (has 2 locations) Contact Director Linda Jorge Carbone, Email is: lcarbone@uso.org (this USO covers from Ocala and ever thing south, coast to coast)
* **Supporting Operation Homefront**: This is a national organization with a mission much in-line with ours. They have several programs that support active military and their families throughout the state. Some of the most noteworthy are: holding “Star Spangle” baby showers, providing holiday meals and toy drive, and assisting with critical financial assistance for military families in need. To learn more, contact is Beth McGregor, Program Coordinator for Florida, Email is: beth.mcgregor@operationhomefront.org
* **Supporting our Blue Star Mothers and American Gold Star Mothers Chapters**. Units can contact these chapters in their area and invite them to a meeting to explain their programs. Units can also team up with them and hold fundraisers, special tea parties or luncheon on their behalf.
* Bring awareness to the **Soldiers Angels** program, where their motto is ”May no soldier go unloved”. All the work is done by mail, they have 12 teams you can volunteer with from the comfort of your home anywhere in the world: Deployed Adoptions, Chaplain Support, Special Operations Forces, Angel Bakers, Ladies of Liberty, Letter Writing, Cards Plus, Operation Top Knot, Women of Valor, Living Legends, Sewing, and Adopt-a-Family. Go to [www.soldiersangels.org](http://www.soldiersangels.org) to learn more
* Supporting and partnering with “**My Warriors Place**” in Ruskin, “**Renewal Coalition**” in Jupiter or similar organizations in your area that provided retreats to service members, blue & gold star families, veterans and first responders.
* Organize a **Welcome To Our Hometown** event to welcome military families that are moving or transitioning out of the military to your community. Refer to the Welcome To Our Hometown Action Guide for additional information and specific steps.
* Work with a **Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program** office of a local military unit (Reserve or National Guard) or a state National Guard Joint Force Headquarters to show patriotic and morale support at Yellow Ribbon events; offering hospitality, refreshments or children and youth activities; or making presentations on Auxiliary resources and services to family members of returning service members.

**Assist Military Spouses in getting and maintaining employment**

* Help to implement a Legion-sponsored job fair and/or co-host a Legion Family information table at a U.S. Chamber of Commerce Foundation-sponsored job fair.
* Seek grant funds to help military spouses start small businesses.
* Promote participation among military spouses at [www.theveteranmarket.com](http://www.theveteranmarket.com).
* Create a scholarship fund for military spouses learning a new skill.
* Have a social event at your unit, listen to their concerns and challendges.
* Be a mentor through [www.eMentor.org](http://www.eMentor.org), share your knowledge.

**ROTC/JROTC**

* Work with Legion posts to honor ROTC and JROTC cadets by having dinners, recognizing their accomplishments.
* Support future military by presenting ROTC and JROTC recognition awards
* Support them in their yearly competitions.

**Supporting Homeland Security**

* Along with our United States Coast Guard, we also need to remember our first responders, our Police, Fire and EMT, they put their lives on the line everyday in our community to keep us safe.
* Plan to assist the local agencies with 911 ceremonies by bringing refreshments
* Attend fallen officers memorials
* Consider hosting a special event.
* Remember safety first, always be aware of your surroundings, and if you SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING.
* Complete a Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training course, and encourage others in your unit to participate. Contact your local Fire Departments in your area or look them up on line to find out if or when they will be holding the next course.

**Chairman Awards**

1. **Coupon Clipping Award**: A plaque will be presented to the **unit** in each membership grouping with the highest monetary value of coupons clipped and mailed. Mail to Support our Troops at PO Box 70, Daytona Beach, FL 32115-0070, or go to Overseas Coupon Programs at [www.ocpnet.org](http://www.ocpnet.org) for information on where else to mail the coupons and log their values for reporting purposes.
2. **USO Award**: A plaque will be presented to the **unit** that best demonstrates how the unit worked with the USO to offer support to our troops and their families. A narrative, not to exceed 1,000 words, must be received by the Department Chairman no later than April 15, 2019. Please include pictures, news articles, etc.
3. **C.E.R.T. Award**: A plaque will be presented to the **unit** that best describes how the CERT training course for 2018-2019 was performed. A narrative must be received by the Department Chairman no later than April 15, 2019.
4. **ROTC/JROTC Award**: A plaque will be presented to the **unit** that best demonstrates how they included the ROTC/JROTC in their activities. A narrative must be received by the Department Chairman no later than April 15, 2019.
5. **Military Spouse Scholarship Award**: A plaque will be presented to the **unit** that best demonstrates how they started a scholarship fund. On-line course school accreditation is accepted. A narrative not to exceed 1,000 words must be received by the Department Chairman no later than April 15, 2019.

**This is a new award this year.**

**Department Award**

1. **Margaret “Peggy” Cone Award:** Awarded annually to the Unit that reports the “Best All Around” program in National Security activities. Please follow instructions outlined in Unit Guide.

**National Awards**

**Taking the time to share a favorite story about the positive impact you or someone you know has had on our mission is worth doing! It helps us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter. Just three simple steps to add your part to our national success story:**

**1**. Please follow instructions as you fill out the National Report and Awards Cover Sheet found in the awards section of the Programs Action Plan.

**2** Provide details/examples about the activity as outlined in the award’s materials and guidelines section.

**3.** Submit as indicated in the Annual Supplement to the Programs Action Plan.

National Report and Awards Cover Sheet, deadlines, and National Security committee

contact information may be found on the National Security committee page on the

national website, www.ALAforVeterans.org.

**Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit National Security Program**

• Award: Citation Plaque

• Presented to: One unit in each division (5)

• Materials and guidelines:

* Entries must be typewritten in narrative form
* Include pictures and newspaper articles

**Resources You Can Use**

1. [www.ALAfor](http://www.ALAfor) Veterans.org resources on the National Security program page:

* American Legion Auxiliary Military Family Readiness Action Guide
	+ A training package is also online for department ad units. It includes an instruction sheet, PowerPoint presentation and scrit, sample agenda, learnin exercises, pre-session survey, satisfaction survey and sample marketing text.
* Welcome To Our Hometown Auction Guide
* ALA-Operation Homefront
* ALA-USO Action Guide

2. Instructional How To sheets found on the National Security program page on the national website:

* How to Welcome Home Separating Service members
* How to Identify Veterans and Service members Families who are In Need of Assistance
* How to Support Troops and their Families on Military Installations
* How to Train for FEMA’s Community Emergency Response Teams
* Planning a POW/MIA Remembrance Service
* How to Collaborate with the American Red Cross’ Service to the Armed Forces
* How to Collaborate with the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS)
* How to Collaborate with the Hiring Our Heroes Military Spouse eMentor Program

3. Legion Resources:

* Blue Star and Gold Star Banners: [www.leion.org/troops/bluestar](http://www.leion.org/troops/bluestar)
* Disaster Preparedness and Response for American Legion Posts: [www.legion.org/documents/pdf/talare\_diasaster\_preparedness.pdf](http://www.legion.org/documents/pdf/talare_diasaster_preparedness.pdf)
* Family Support Network: [www.legion.org/troos/familysupport](http://www.legion.org/troos/familysupport)
* Operation Comfort Warriors: [www.legion.org/troops/operationcomfort](http://www.legion.org/troops/operationcomfort)
* POW/MIA: [www.legion.org/powmia](http://www.legion.org/powmia)
* Legislative Action Alerts: <http://capwiz.com/legion/home>

4. Follow us on Facebook:

* ALA National Headquarters: [www.facebook.com/ALAforVeterans](http://www.facebook.com/ALAforVeterans)
* The national, National Security Committee Facebook group, search “ALA National Security”

5. Your national, National Security committee members (see National Security program page on the national website or Annual Supplement for contact information)

1. Your Department National Security Chairman and Committee members:

Rhonda Brailey-Maurer

**National Security Chairman**

Department of Florida

5272 77th St N

St Petersburg, FL 33709

603-455-3868

nationalsecurity@alafl.org

**Committee Members**

Christine Massey Stephena Vergara

93151 4th St N 2418 Santa Cruz Ave

Pinellas Park, FL 33782 Clearwater, FL 764

cgirard1966@gmail.com scox56@gmail.com

NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY-DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

**UNIT** MID-YEAR REPORT 2018 – 2019

Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit Chairman Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit President Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit Chairman Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What did your Unit do for the National Security Program from

April 1, 2018 to November 30, 2018

Hours volunteered helping active duty military families: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Number of families served: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dollars spent or donated: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Value of In-Kind donations: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Donations made to the USO: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Value of In-Kind donations: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hours volunteered collecting, cutting and mailing coupons: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

Dollar Value of Coupons; $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hours volunteered sending care packages to deployed service members: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dollars Spent: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Number of Packages Sent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hours volunteering for CERT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Number of volunteers certified: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Did you include the ROTC/JROTC in your activities for this year? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Number of medals presented: \_\_\_\_\_ Name of medals: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Did members organize “Welcome To Our Hometown” events? If so, what was most successful? Did you have any challenges? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What types of National Security activities and/or projects were done at your unit that wasn’t near a military installation? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Describe all other National Security activities not listed above on a separate sheet of paper. Include volunteer hours, dollars spent and number of service members served.

PLEASE SEND TWO (2) COPIES TO YOUR DISTRICT CHAIRMAN

NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 1, 2018.

NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY-DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

**UNIT** YEAR-END REPORT 2018 – 2019

Unit Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit Number: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ District: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit Chairman Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit President Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unit Chairman Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What did your Unit do for the National Security Program from

April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019

Hours volunteered helping active duty military families: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Number of families served: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dollars spent or donated: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Value of In-Kind donations: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Donations made to the USO: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Value of In-Kind donations: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hours volunteered collecting, cutting and mailing coupons: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_,

Dollar Value of Coupons; $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Hours volunteered sending care packages to deployed service members: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Dollars Spent: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Number of Packages Sent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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NO LATER THAN APRIL 1, 2018.

NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY-DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

**DISTRICT** MID-YEAR REPORT 2018 – 2019

District Number: \_\_\_\_ District Chairman Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

District Chairman Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

What did your Unit do for the National Security Program from

April 1, 2018 to November 30, 2018

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Dollars spent or donated: $ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Value of In-Kind donations: $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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NO LATER THAN DECEMBER 15, 2018.

NATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAMS

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY-DEPARTMENT OF FLORIDA

**DISTRICT** YEAR-END REPORT 2018 – 2019

District Number: \_\_\_\_ District Chairman Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

District Chairman Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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