

## AMERICAN LEGION ENDOWMENT FUND CORPORATION

William M. Detweiler  
Louisiana  
President

In 1925, World War I veterans, widows and children continued to struggle to return to a regular life. The members of The American Legion, aware of the vital responsibilities entrusted to them by those who had served, knew the time had come to take action. More than 900,000 Legionnaires, American Legion Auxiliary members and other American citizens joined the campaign, raising nearly \$5 million and establishing the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation.

Since those early days, over \$30 million has been distributed to disabled veterans and the children of those who served our great nation. Your gifts and donations are added to a trust that is administered by the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation. The corporation, whose members are selected by the National Executive Committee of The American Legion, takes great care to ensure that these gifts are wisely invested. Income from fund investments is then passed on to the American Legion national organization to administer programs of Children & Youth (C&Y) and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R), that include funding for the Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) program, Department Service Officer school and Board of Veterans Appeals training.

During calendar year 2015, the American Legion Endowment Fund transferred trust earnings of \$183,691 to The American Legion to support TFA and VA&R programs. Donations to the American Legion Endowment Fund during this time totaled \$187,961. It is important to note that due to the structure of the fund as an endowment, only earnings on the fund are spent, ensuring that donations will continue to support veterans and their children for generations.

At the board of directors meeting in Indianapolis on May 3, 2016, the following officers were elected: William M. Detweiler of Louisiana, president; Hon. Vincent M. Gaughan of Illinois, vice president; David P. Rook of Indiana, treasurer. George A. Buskirk Jr. was appointed assistant treasurer.

Under the 1969 Tax Reform Act, the American Legion Endowment Fund Corporation retains its tax-exempt status. Gifts, therefore, are deductible for federal income tax purposes to the extent permitted by law, and bequests are deductible for federal inheritance tax purposes to the extent permitted by the Federal Tax Act.