

### THIS IS

### THE AMERICAN LEGION



#### ABOUT THE LEGION

### **OUR PILLARS OF SERVICE**



#### **VETERANS**

VA benefit and appeal assistance

Job and career guidance

Homeless outreach



#### YOUTH

Scholarships

Youth programs and competitions

Junior ROTC and Scouting sponsorship



#### **DEFENSE**

Military family support

Comfort items for wounded servicemembers

Advocacy for troops and military in Washington, D.C.



#### **AMERICANISM**

Flag respect education

Citizenship services

Support for the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem



#### **ABOUT THE LEGION**

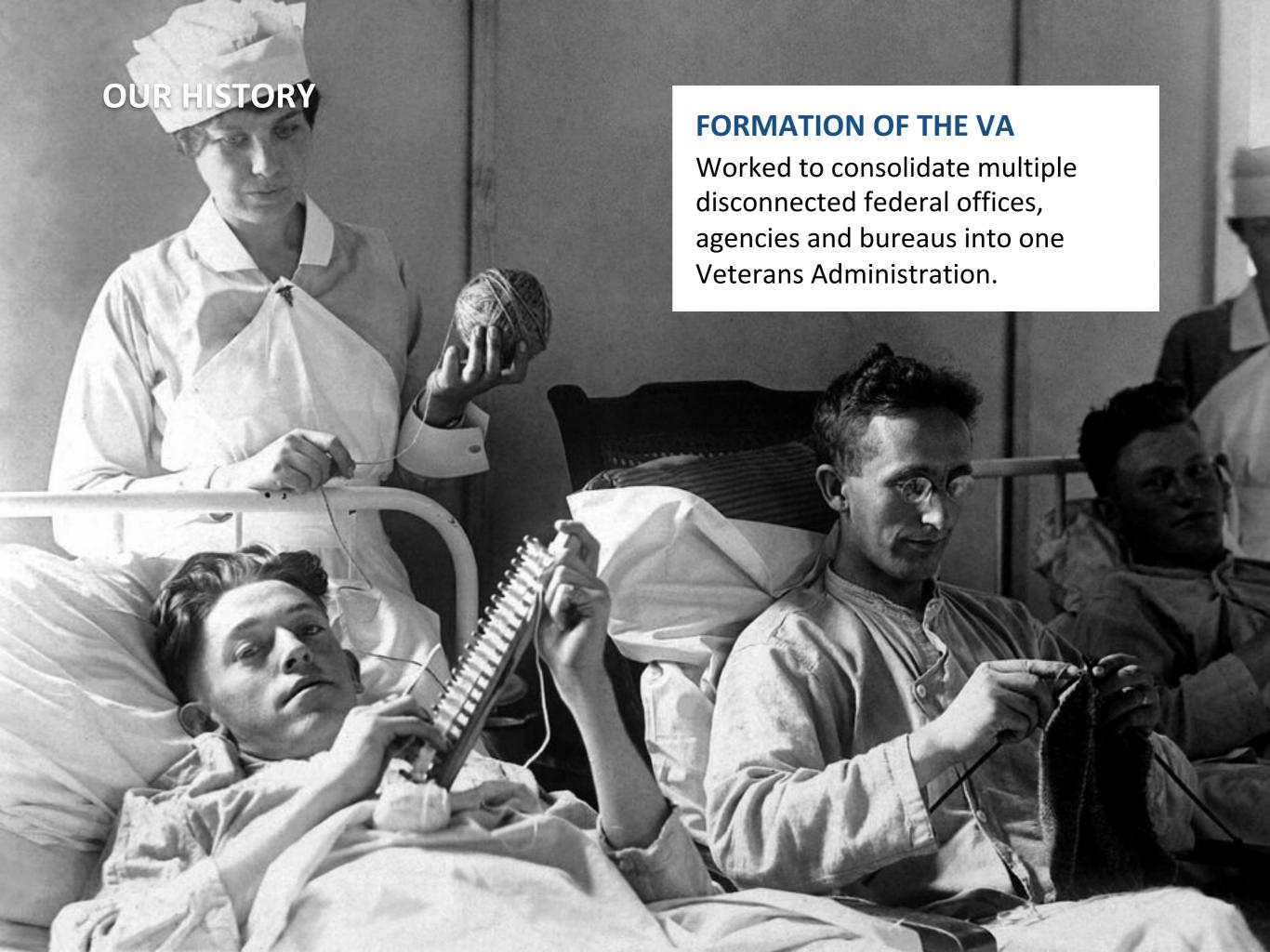
# **COMMUNITY FOOTPRINT**

- ► 13,500 American Legion Posts
- North America
- The Caribbean
- Europe
- Latin America
- Asia









#### **OUR HISTORY**

#### THE GREATEST LEGISLATION

Formulated, drafted and fought for passage of the the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944.

#### The GI Bill

- Educated millions
- Triggered a half-century of economic prosperity
- Revolutionized higher education
- Made home ownership possible for average Americans
- Created the American middleclass
- Allowed for an all-volunteer military







#### **SERVICES FOR VETERANS**

# VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

- Free representation for some 750,000 veterans and families seeking VA disability and medical benefits at any one time
- Support for veterans suffering from PTSD and TBI
- Millions of volunteer hours and services at VA facilities
- Representation before Congress and the White House to provide timely VA health care and efficient benefits processing



#### **SERVICES FOR VETERANS**

# VETERANS EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

- More than 1,000 job fairs and other career events for veterans and their families every year, nationwide
- Fighting for fair conversion of military experience to credit hours for civilian careers in specialized fields
- Mentorship and advice for veteran entrepreneurs
- Relief, support and help for homeless veterans



#### **SERVICES FOR YOUTH**

# CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

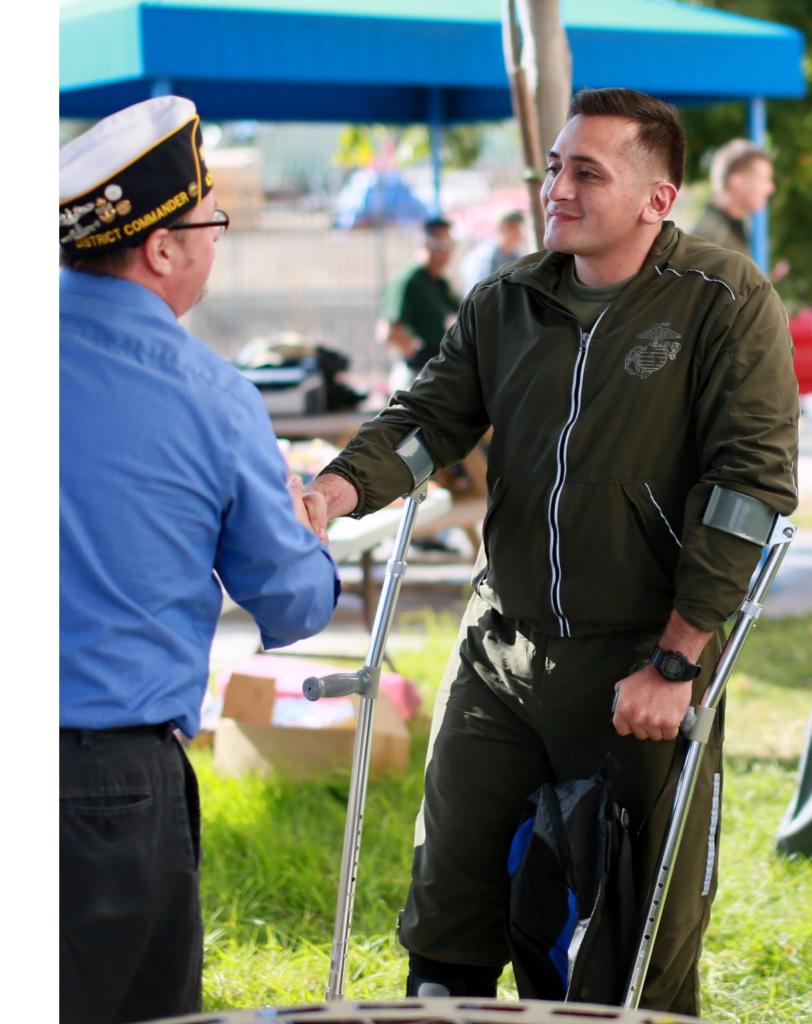
- Financial assistance for needy military and veteran families with young children
- Grants to organizations that provide support for children in need
- College scholarships to children of U.S. servicemembers killed while on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001
- Mentorship through American Legion Boys State, Boys Nation and Oratorical Competition
- Youth programs, including more than 3,000 Scout units, nearly 4,000 American Legion Baseball teams, dozens of Junior Shooting Sports Clubs, Junior ROTC and Youth Cadet Law Enforcement Programs



#### **MILITARY SUPPORT**

### NATIONAL SECURITY

- Advocacy in Washington, D.C., for quality-of-life benefits for members of the Armed Forces
- Comfort items for hospitalized military personnel recovering from wounds and illnesses
- Fair treatment and support for military retirees
- Discharge review services
- Support for adequate defense funding
- Adoption of deployed units and volunteerism at National Guard armories



#### **AMERICANISM**

# PATRIOTIC VALUES

- The nation's foremost authority on U.S flag respect, procedures and code
- Support for public expression of the Pledge of Allegiance and the national anthem
- Classroom presentations for children on such topics as flag respect, military service, history and patriotism
- Citizenship and naturalization education and support for legal immigrants seeking to become Americans



#### IN TIMES OF NEED

### **CRISIS CONTROL**

- The National Emergency Fund has provided more than
   \$8 million in direct financial assistance to American Legion members and posts after crises
- Posts serve as relief stations and command centers during natural disasters
- The Family Support Network ensures families of deployed service members endure no hardship caused by their service
- Temporary Financial Assistance program awards grants to help families of veterans with children



#### **HONOR & REMEMBRANCE**

### PRESERVATION OF MEMORIES

- Provision and delivery of U.S. flags for the graves of American military personnel laid to rest at overseas cemeteries
- Demand full accounting and repatriation of all U.S. military personnel listed as prisoners of war or missing in action
- Participation in thousands of patriotic observances and events around the world each year
- Honor guard services and memorial tributes for fallen military personnel and veterans



#### **COMMUNITY**

# THE LEGION IS LOCAL

- Every American Legion post is its own entity, working alongside local government, business and civic groups
- Legionnaires help schools with flag education, military history, Boys State, Oratorical contests, Junior ROTC, Junior Shooting Sports, American Legion Baseball and more
- Legion Riders hit the road to raise funds, provide military funeral escorts and to volunteer for multiple local, state and national causes







### the American Legion

#### **LOCAL CONTACT**

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