



VOICES

"We can do better, and that's why I really wanted to work with The American Legion because it's something we both care about, and we're not just talking about it. We're putting action into it."

*-Retired U.S. Army Lt. Col. Robin Johnson, executive producer for HEAL *ARIOUS and founder of the Best Medicine Brigade, at the April 1 kick-off performance of a 10-city veterans' comedy tour, supported by The American Legion and its Be the One initiative to combat veteran suicide*



\$203,000

Amount in college scholarship funds awarded to competitors after the 84th American Legion National Oratorical Contest April 23 in Indianapolis. Champion Haley Bock of Indianapolis received a \$25,000 scholarship for her winning oration, followed by \$22,500 for second-place Ian Chung of Vestal, N.Y., and \$20,000 for third-place Emma Johnson of Powell, Wyo.



500,000

Veterans and family members who had filed claims through April 26 for health care and benefits made available through the American Legion-supported PACT Act, which provides relief to former servicemembers who were exposed to toxic contamination while in uniform.



30k+

VA appeals cases handled free of charge for veterans by American Legion claims specialists since adding a new office in Indianapolis in 2018.



\$5k

Donation from Atkins Saw American Legion Post 355 in Indianapolis to the Legion's National Emergency Fund in mid-April.



\$12,133

Contribution presented April 20 to Service Dogs of Alabama from Millbrook, Ala., American Legion Post 133 – the second major donation from the post to the organization, which provides medical and psychiatric service dogs for children, adults and veterans in need.



12k

Amount in National Emergency Fund grants disbursed from American Legion National Headquarters in April after a tornado season that hit no less than 22 communities.



\$1,500

Amount in one April American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grant that assisted a veteran's family with three children at home.



\$22,500

Operation Comfort Warriors grants and purchases made in April to provide comfort items and recreational experiences for recovering military personnel and qualified veterans. The funds assisted five individuals and helped pay for attendance at two events, altogether impacting the lives of 555 qualified recipients.



1,745

American Legion Baseball teams that by the end of April had started the registration process for the coming season.



7,966

Downloads during April of the Tango Alpha Lima podcast, making it the fifth best month ever. Additionally, 2023 has three of the top five months in terms of downloads.



63

U.S. Flag Code inquiries fielded in April by the national American Legion Americanism Division.



\$3,750

Amount in American Legion national youth scholarships, in addition to those from the National Oratorical Contest, disbursed in April.



11

Number of U.S. servicemembers who were previously unidentified MIAs who were repatriated in April.



2

Number of families of 'unknown' USS Arizona sailors and Marines connected with following a story on legion.org about Operation 85. The nonprofit is working to identify the remaining 85 from USS Arizona who died in the Pearl Harbor attack.

VOICES

"I think that no matter who you are, if you're a (veteran) or sportsman or whatever, you shouldn't be afraid to ask for help. I feel like we have the power to reach out to a lot of people. We have a big platform as racing drivers. We're on TV. We're on social media. I like to think we have a decent following. So, we have the ability to send the message. And hopefully as well, it's not only a message directly to the veterans, but as well to people that are surrounding them, and just to reach out and ask for help is not a bad thing. I hope that we can spread the word."

-INDYCAR Series rookie Marcus Armstrong who drove The American Legion's No. 11 "Be the One" car in the Acura Grand Prix of Long Beach and Children's of Alabama Grand Prix; winning the Biggest Move Award for moving up 15 positions on April 30



9

New Sons of The American Legion squadrons chartered across the country in April, to go along with one new American Legion post, in Texas.



12

American Legion departments that were issued ROTC and Junior ROTC medals in April – 18 for scholastic excellence and 19 for military excellence.