



VOICES

"The children in the community are watching your example and learning more than you know."

-Steven Kreitzer, member of American Legion Post 337 in Hinckley, Ill., who was inspired by his 5-year-old daughter's patriotism to start a successful flag-education program at her preschool, with enthusiastic support of the principal



\$43,000

American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors grant funds delivered to Department of Maine Commander Kirk Thurston in support of the non-profit Operation Reboot Outdoors, his project for the year, which provides recreational healing for active-duty military personnel, veterans and law-enforcement officers.



8,268

Minimum number of Legionnaires who participated in Operation Comfort Warriors programs in the 2021-22 membership year.



\$363,339

Amount in American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors grants issued in 2022 to purchase comfort items and recreational experiences for active-duty military personnel and veterans recovering from wounds and illnesses.



818

VA Informal Hearing Presentations prepared for veterans by national American Legion claims specialists in January.



51

VA accreditations for American Legion service officers certified in January.



924

Board of Veterans Appeals dispositions achieved in January through free American Legion national representation for veterans disputing their VA claims decisions. Over 70% were ruled in favor of the veteran or remanded for further documentation.



\$8,000

Amount raised through raffles conducted by the American Legion Family of Post 123 in Lansford, Pa., to assist the families of two local firefighters who lost their lives during a house fire in December.



15

Years that Student Veterans of America has grown, now to more than 750,000 members in 1,600 campus chapters, since The American Legion provided free office space for the group in its first year, 2008.



52

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



\$85,856.50

Amount in American Legion national youth scholarships disbursed in January, to 27 different recipients.



\$136,167.13

Amount in American Legion National Emergency Fund grants (44) distributed in January to hurricane-harmed veterans and posts in Florida.



\$407,000

Milan, Ind., Post 235's donations last year to assist local community organizations and individuals, plus a nearby American Legion post, after a "staggering" year of success with its Treasure Hunt drawing.



2

American Legion members recently appointed to serve on the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, from among six veterans newly named to the panel. The Legionnaires are Rep. Keith Self, R-Texas, of Post 10 in McKinney, Texas; and Derrick Van Orden, R-Wis., of Post 68 in Prairie du Chien, Wis.



2

American Legion Baseball alums – Scott Rolen and Fred McGriff – elected to join the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, N.Y., this year. They represent the 84th and 85th former Legion players enshrined at the hall.



408,892

Volunteer hours logged by Legionnaires at VA hospitals in the 2021-22 membership year, according to the most recent Consolidated Post Report.

VOICES

"The No. 1 issue facing our community is veteran suicide. Know that we are not alone in our struggles, whatever they may be."

-Jim Johnson, Post 82 in Port Orchard, Wis., after participating in a 2.2-mile January march to raise awareness of The American Legion's "Be the One" effort to prevent veteran suicide.



2.2

Miles covered in a hike by about 30 Wisconsin American Legion Family members as they promoted the Be the One message in Green Bay during the department mid-winter conference.



9,219

Downloads of the Tango Alpha Lima podcast in January, the second-best month ever.



19.4%

Growth rate of The American Legion's Instagram audience of 17,304 since January 2022.



\$115,000

Amount raised to support police survivors organizations, Honor Flight travelers and a disabled veteran in just four rides by American Legion Riders Chapter 3 in Macon, Ga.



882

Number of competitors, from 122 different clubs, who had registered by the end of January for postal matches in the American Legion Junior Shooting Sports program.



10

Sons of The American Legion squadrons chartered in January across the country.