



How to Find a Unit to Adopt

The references and resources below are to help you *get started* supporting local military units and their families through **VFW's Adopt-a-Unit (AAU) program**.

Before submitting AAU paperwork to VFW National HQ or sending care packages to a unit:

- Get permission from the unit's Commanding officer or Senior NCO
- Review the information in the Adopt-a-Unit Application.

VFW HQs does not have a list of names &/or addresses of units or service members.

===== **R e s o u r c e s** =====

VFW Post/Auxiliary members are the BEST resources to make contact with a local military unit. Ask if anyone has a friend/relative currently serving in the military; or even knows of someone working/serving on a local base.

VFW & Auxiliary Department Chairmen are a critically important resource, they receive training on VFW troop support programs and receive regular communications from VFW HQs.

Your own hometown community (Churches, workplace, schools, VSOs etc.) As with your membership, ask around to see if anyone has a friend or relative currently serving in the military or working at a base or reserve center.

===== **Military/Internet Resources** =====

Active Duty Military Bases/Installations:

Military.com Assists 30 million Americans with military affinity stay connected and informed, including an online guide to military bases. <http://www.military.com/base-guide/>

The Military Zone is a website whose mission is to provide military news, information and resources of interest to active, retired, and future military personnel. Their information seems a little older, but it does have telephone numbers for many bases:

http://themilitaryzone.com/military_bases.html

My Base Guide primarily geared towards military and their families. Click on the link below to check the U.S. map and see if there is a base in your area. When you find a base, then click on the name. From the bases' webpage, look for the "Directory" and look for the "Public Affairs" office to make contact. <http://mybaseguide.com/>

National Guard & Reserves:

- 1. **Army & Air National Guard**: The link below is to a U.S. map, just click on your state & it takes you to your state’s guard website.
<http://www.nationalguard.mil/resources/statewebsites.aspx>
- 2. **Marine Reserves**: The link below has the most detailed contact information to work from.
<http://www.marforres.marines.mil/ContactUs/DirectoryByState.aspx>
- 3. **Army Reserves**: Look on the right side of the home page of the link below for “Find A Unit” to look up your state. <http://www.usar.army.mil/Pages/default.aspx>
- 4. **Navy Reserves**: <<still working on what the symbols on map mean, 4/26>>
<http://www.navyreserve.com/about/locations/>
- 5. **Air Force Reserves**: Lists units by states. Click on the unit/state and it will take to you that AF base website. You will then need to go to the contact us to get the telephone number for the Airman and Family Assistance Center.
<http://www.afrc.af.mil/units/unitsbystate.asp>

Military Medical (Wounded Warrior) units:

- 1. **Army- Warrior Transition Units (WTU)**: This link also uses a U.S. map. Once, you’ve verified there is a unit in your area, you can use the telephone number provided to make contact with an ombudsman. http://wtc.army.mil/about_us/wtu_locations.html
- 2. **Marines- Wounded Warrior Regiment (WWR)** detachments are units/locations: Contact one of the 2 Battalions below to see if there are Marines from the WWR in your area.
 - o **Battalion-East Contact Center**: (*East of the Mississippi River, including Europe*) 910-451-1202, 910-451-2253, 910-449-9573
 - o **Battalion West Contact Center**: (*West of the Mississippi River, including Japan, Guam and Hawaii*) 888-738-7044
- 3. **Navy- Safe Harbor**: This website lists the locations (scroll down) where Navy Wounded Warrior – Safe Harbor staff are located throughout the continental United States.
<http://safeharbor.navalive.dodlive.mil/?s=locations>
- 4. **Air Force – Wounded Warrior**: Each Air Force base has an “Airman & Family Readiness Center”(AFRC). If the base has service members in transition, the AFRC will be the office to discuss possibly VFW support. Use the active duty base resources above to locate an Air Force base.

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With all the changes in the military, websites and links can change quickly. Please contact the MAP office regarding any issues with the above links or if you need further assistance. Email: map@vfw.org or call 816-756-3390, ext. 262