



# VFW Reaches \$3 Million; Meeting the ‘Unmet Needs’ of Military Families

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The VFW National Headquarters — courtesy of its Unmet Needs program—is pleased to announce it has now provided more than \$3 million in financial assistance to service members and military families that have experienced financial hardship, often times brought on by a deployment.

Officially launched June 6, 2004, Unmet Needs has grown to become one of VFW’s most acclaimed programs among service members and their families, offering a “lifeline” for those in critical need of financial assistance.

With generous contributions by both individuals and corporate sponsors like Burger King and Vermont American, the program has helped more than 2,000 families across America. The assistance comes in the form of a grant, not a loan, so the recipients aren’t required to repay it. Furthermore, 100% of donations received go directly to the program.

The grants have helped military families with everything from major home repairs to infant formula. Grants are available to all five branches of the military, as well as members of the National Guard and Reserves.

Uniquely, and believing everyone has a talent that can help a military family in need, Unmet Needs also offers donations in the form of “Skills.” Those who’ve applied to the program and are in need of home repairs, auto repairs, etc., can be matched with a skill-donor to fulfill their needs.

“The VFW is extremely proud of the fact that we can provide a lifeline for so many military families, especially during an already trying time in their lives. This program really showcases what we do, and have always done and that’s supporting America’s service members,” said VFW Adjutant General, Allen “Gunner” Kent.

*The Unmet Needs Program, created by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, provides emergency financial support to families of military personnel. Since the program’s inception, more than \$3 million in grants have been disbursed to over 2,000 families across the country that are facing financial hardships because of the deployment of a loved one. Funds from*

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*donations are available to the five branches of service (Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard), as well as members of the Reserves and National Guard. Absolutely 100% of every donation goes directly to military families. Web site at <http://www.vfw.org>*