

# VFW Auxiliary Celebrates Historic Year in Membership

**'There is strength in numbers - and every voice matters'**

May 24, 2016

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** - The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) Auxiliary is excited to announce that it has achieved more than 100% in membership for the first time since 1993. More than 464,000 male and female members representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign-based Auxiliaries stand united in their support of our nation's veterans, active-duty service members and their families.

"This has been a remarkable year of growth and positive change for our organization," said National President Francisca Guilford. "With the expansion of member eligibility to include men, we are welcoming a more diverse community into our VFW Auxiliary family. There is strength in numbers – and every voice matters as we dedicate ourselves to our mission of improving the lives of veterans and their families."

"I am so proud of my fellow Auxiliary members for achieving our shared goal of more than 100% in membership this year," said National Membership Ambassador Joyce Bilyeu. "I consider membership to be the 'life insurance' of the VFW Auxiliary. The work we do is one of the greatest legacies we can pass on to future generations. It provides the assurance that our veterans will be taken care of now and for years to come. The future is bright for our organization, and I invite you to become a member today."

If you are a male or female relative of someone who served in overseas combat, you may be eligible to join the VFW Auxiliary. If you are interested in serving veterans, active-duty military, their families and your community, please visit [www.vfwauxiliary.org/join-us](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org/join-us) to learn more.

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**About the VFW Auxiliary:**

*Established in 1914, members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary set out to serve the veterans of this country and our communities in honor of the sacrifices and commitment of every man and woman who has served in uniform. The VFW Auxiliary is one of the nation's oldest veterans' service organizations and our members are the relatives of those who have served in overseas combat. We have nearly 465,000 members representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia and several foreign-based Auxiliaries who volunteer millions of hours and give millions of dollars to support veterans, military service personnel and their families.*

*We are a voice for veterans on Capitol Hill and are instrumental in assisting the VFW pass or block legislation that impacts veterans and their families. We are one of the top ten providers of volunteer hours in the VA medical system. Every year, members fund-raise millions of dollars for charitable projects that benefit veterans and their families. We also provide hundreds of thousands of dollars in scholarships for our nation's youth. With more than 4,000 Auxiliaries, there is likely one in your area working to improve the lives of America's uncommon heroes. Learn more at [www.vfwauxiliary.org](http://www.vfwauxiliary.org).*

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