



## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

### 2021-2022 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND PROGRAM ACTION PLAN

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The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency assistance to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have endured a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or another personal crisis.

Established in 1969, the AEF was created with a bequest from the estate of Auxiliary member Helen Colby Small of Burlington, Wisconsin. Five decades later, the AEF is still helping fellow Auxiliary members get back on their feet. In order to carry on the Auxiliary Emergency Fund, we need your generous support.

**Eligibility:** Members of the American Legion Auxiliary whose dues are current and who have maintained membership for three consecutive years (the current year and immediate past two years), who have not received a grant (of the same type they are applying for) within the last 12 months, and are applying within six months of the disaster are eligible to apply for a Disaster Assistance grant or a Temporary Assistance grant when:

- A financial crisis hits, leaving a member without resources to pay rent/mortgage and/or utilities, and no other source of aid is readily available.
- A natural disaster or weather emergency leaves a member with a damaged or destroyed primary residence and/or significant emergency expenses (lodging, food, fuel, supplies, etc.), and no other source of aid is readily available.

#### What Can You Do:

- Each unit should have an active Auxiliary Emergency Fund chairman/committee.
- Familiarize yourself and your unit members with the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Knowing about this program will make the process easier and increase the chances of the applicants receiving a grant, should you need to help a member apply.
- Learn the application process, what kind of documents to include with applications, fund restrictions, and help members in need contact other organizations that might be able to assist them.
- Have printed applications and AEF brochures available during unit meetings and at the local post.
- Host fundraisers and donate proceeds to the National Auxiliary Emergency Fund.
- Make a personal donation to the AEF.

#### Year-End Reports

Each unit Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) chairman is required to submit a narrative report by April 15, 2022 to department headquarters, who will then forward it to the department AEF chairman.

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:

- Does your unit promote the Auxiliary Emergency Fund at meetings and events?
- How much did your unit donate to the Auxiliary Emergency Fund?
- Were there any applications for help from your Unit?
- Describe your Unit's fundraising ideas

### **National Awards Deadlines and Submission Requirements**

Thank you for taking the time to share a favorite story about the positive impact you or someone you know has had on our mission! Your story may inspire another member into service. It also helps us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter.

Here are the national awards for this committee:

- Unit Award:** Unit Contributing the Largest Amount (per capita)  
Deadline June 1st for contributions
- Department Award:** Department Award: Largest Contribution  
Deadline June 1st for contributions
- Department Award:** Department Contributing the Largest Amount (per capita)  
Deadline June 1st for contributions

If you have questions, please contact Pam Bates [pamelabates9@gmail.com](mailto:pamelabates9@gmail.com)

#### **National Committee Chairman**

Pam Bates, Department of Ohio  
Phone: 937-974-2316  
Email: [pamelabates9@gmail.com](mailto:pamelabates9@gmail.com)

#### **Central Division Chairman**

Cathie Goth, Department of Missouri  
Phone: 660-885-5395  
Email: [cgoth1@charter.net](mailto:cgoth1@charter.net)

Committee contact information – [aef@ALAforVeterans.org](mailto:aef@ALAforVeterans.org)

#### **Brochures and Applications:**

- The AEF brochure is available through Department Headquarters and also online at [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org)
- Grant applications are available on the Department Website [www.amlegionauxwi.org](http://www.amlegionauxwi.org) (click on the program info tab) and are also available on the National Website [www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org)

#### **Resources:**

##### **[www.ALAforVeterans.org](http://www.ALAforVeterans.org)**

The ALA website has resource information for military servicemembers and their families,

including organizations that provide community and social support, health and wellness services, career and education resources, and legal and financial aid.

**[www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org)**

The American Legion's Family Support Network connects those in need with a Legion post that can provide assistance with grocery shopping, child care, mowing the grass, fixing the family car, and other routine household jobs.

**[www.211.org](http://www.211.org)**

This website links people with resources for basic needs, physical and mental health services, jobs, etc.

**[www.fema.gov](http://www.fema.gov)**

The FEMA website provides information for preparing, preventing, and responding to disasters.

**[www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org)**

The American Red Cross offers relief focused on meeting immediate, disaster-related needs such as food, shelter, health, and mental health services.

**[www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/foodshare](http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/foodshare)**

FoodShare Wisconsin was created to help stop hunger and to improve nutrition and health. FoodShare helps people with limited money buy the food they need for good health.

**[www.homeenergyplus.wi.gov](http://www.homeenergyplus.wi.gov)**

The Wisconsin Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources provides services to Wisconsin qualified residential households with energy assistance and weatherization needs.