Making a lasting impact on Military and Veteran Families for over 93 years.

2017-2018 Annual Report

HELP  HOPE  HONOR
The VFW National Home for Children's mission is to provide children, youths, and families of veterans, active-duty military, and members of the VFW and its Auxiliary opportunities for growth and development in a nurturing community, and by doing so, serves as a living memorial to all veterans.
Dear Friends,

Since 1925, the VFW National Home for Children has stood as a symbol of America’s gratitude for the sacrifices made by the men and women serving our nation and their families.

The National Home helps our nation’s veterans and their families by providing a safe community where they can accomplish significant life goals, working to build a stable future for their children.

The assistance provided to veterans extends beyond the National Home campus. Our caring helpline staff uses many resources to assist America’s veterans and their families wherever they are, whatever issues they are facing, through our Military and Veteran Family Helpline, **800.313.4200**.

None of this would be possible without your support and contributions. You have all given in a multitude of ways. Whether you sent in a donation, purchased a tribute brick, or volunteered your time and services, your generosity has touched the lives of so many veteran families in need, both on our campus and throughout the country.

In gratitude,

Patrice Green
Executive Director
“After visiting this facility I came away thinking everyone needs to know of the wonderful facility that directly helps service men and women families. All citizens need to go for a tour and listen to the employees to experience first hand the works that National Home for Children does daily for those in dire need. Families have gotten back on their feet, they have met those who share similar life experiences and I would venture to guess they have made lifelong friends during their stay at National Home for Children.”

- General Member of the Public, Great Nonprofits

“Staying the weekend at the VFW National Home for Children in Eaton Rapids, MI with some of my fellow Female Veteran Solders was an amazing experience. This place is so serene and calming. Just driving into the complex I felt a sense of peace. If I had only known about the services they provide when I was going through my divorce a few years back I would have definitely taken advantage of the awesome opportunity they provide for Veteran and Descendants of Veterans. I was the last to leave because I wanted to take it all in so I could remember the tranquility. They are truly changing lives and making this world a better place!”

- Natalie Hayes, Facebook

“I went there on a trip with my VFW Post 3944 and other VFW post for the children’s Halloween party and a tour of the homes. It was a pleasant visit and all of the workers there worked so hard to get this party together for these kids and their families. It was a happy place and the children and their families looked very content. The homes were well maintained and the grounds were just beautiful. My Post will continue donations as we have for years and keep this beautiful place running for our Military families. We love you guys and look forward to seeing you next year.”

- Diana Clark, Google
Once the child of a struggling military family, Brian grew up at the National Home. Motivated by the events of 9/11 and inspired by the honor and faith of those who made his life at the Home possible, he chose to serve his country in Iraq.

“I knew that I wanted to defend my country, so 9/11 reaffirmed my belief that going into the military was what I should do.”

But when Brian’s unit was north of Baghdad on route clearance patrol, a bomb landed on their Humvee.

“When they picked me up my foot swung past me and it was attached by the Achilles tendon and was still in my boot. When I woke up 16 hours later, I asked where everyone else was and they told me that I was the only one who lived.”

It took twelve surgeries to reattach and restore function to Brian’s foot, but chronic pain and the memories of the friends he lost that day still trouble him. Today, Brian struggles with PTSD continually, yet he is still proud of his decision to serve.

Brian knows first-hand how life-changing the National Home can be.

When he was only seven years old, life had been chaotic. His divorced mother and three sisters found themselves destitute after his mother lost her job.

But then his family learned about the National Home. Brian’s grandfather had served in WWII, and so his family was overjoyed to learn that they qualified to live at the National Home.

The family moved into one of the spacious single-family homes, where they paid no rent or utility bills and they were assigned a caring case manager to help them get back on their feet.

“It was a stability that I hadn’t known in years really,” Brian recalls fondly. “I came from a violent household, and suddenly I was in a place where that didn’t exist”.

See Brian’s story and more. Visit vfwnationalhome.org/stories
2017-2018 BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
(as of 6/30/2018)
Dave Ouellette , Board President, District 1
Mike McGrath, Board Vice President, District 8
Warren George, District 2
Ron Stensland, District 3
Sam Compton, District 4
Darlene Mays-Tittman, District 5
Armithea “Sissy” Borel, District 6
Merridy Lewis, District 7
Steve Van Bergen, District 9
Sylvia Sanchez , District 10
Barbara Stodgell, District 11
Renee Fulk, District 12

VFW Commander-In-Chief, Keith Harman
VFW Adjutant General, Brian Duffy
VFW Quartermaster General, Debra Anderson
VFW Auxiliary National President,
Dee Guillory
VFW Auxiliary National Secretary/Treasurer,
Jan Passmore

2017-2018 Management Team
Patrice Green, Executive Director
Molly Studinger, Program Director
Todd Marriott, Facilities Director
Tim Smith, Operations Director
Sue Alverson, Development Director
OUR PROGRAM

The VFW National Home for Children is grateful for the generous friends and supporters who have reached out to help military and veteran families. The Home was founded in 1925 as a place where the families left behind by war – mothers and children, brothers and sisters – could remain together, keeping the family circle intact even when their serviceman didn't come home. Today's families face different challenges – reintegration, post-traumatic stress, high unemployment and rehabilitation from battlefield injuries, among others – and the National Home has evolved to meet those changing needs.

Families find a healing calm in our tranquil, rural, small-town community. Our neighborhood is essentially a small village with its own gymnasium, hiking trails, fishing pond, playgrounds, sports fields, and green spaces.

Families who need a fresh start can live at the National Home for up to four years and benefit from numerous community supportive services, including professional case management services, on-site licensed child care, life skills training, tutoring and other educational services, as well as recreational and community service opportunities.

Additionally, many families benefit from our services throughout the country. In the 2017-2018 year alone, hundreds of families were helped by our Military & Veteran Family Helpline 800-313-4200.

This free service offers information, creates connections and gives hope to struggling military and veteran families.

Families can also learn more about our program and contact us at:

vfwnationalhome.org/help.
Summary of 2017-2018 Audited Financial Statements

### Summarized Statement of Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenue</td>
<td>4,803,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct care</td>
<td>1,286,010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indirect care</td>
<td>959,310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities mgt</td>
<td>1,352,254</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>179,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal services</td>
<td>505,045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>885,989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>5,167,992</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Change in Assets</td>
<td>(364,969)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Summarized Statement of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assets</td>
<td>17,985,105</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liabilities</td>
<td>446,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ending Net Assets</td>
<td>17,538,390</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**2017-2018 Expenses Ratio**

- Program Expenses 70%
- Administration 13%
- Fundraising Expenses 17%