



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN
2017-2018 AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND PROGRAM ACTION PLAN

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What It Is:

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund offers temporary assistance to eligible members during:

1. A time of financial crisis when no other source of aid is readily available to pay for shelter, food and utilities.
2. Weather related emergencies and natural disasters for food and shelter.
3. Educational training for members who lack the necessary skills for employment or to upgrade competitive workforce skills.

Note: Assistance will not be available for accumulated debt or medical expenses.

Eligibility: Women who have been members of the American Legion Auxiliary for at least the immediate past two consecutive years and whose current membership dues are paid at the time the emergency occurs (totaling three consecutive years) may apply for assistance. The maximum grant amount is \$2,400 disbursed as the Auxiliary Emergency Fund Grant Committee determines.

What You Can Do:

Each unit should have an active Auxiliary Emergency Fund chairman/committee with resources and education available to members. Resources should include:

1. Printed application
2. Auxiliary Emergency Fund brochures
3. Fund Raising ideas/projects

Some fund raising ideas include:

1. Support Members In Leading Each other to educate and involve in order to assist in time of need by having a “Members Helping Members” night at the local post. This gives the opportunity to share information and is also an opportunity sign up new members.
2. Offer a night of service. For a donation gift wrapping at Christmas time, babysitting services for Christmas shopping—any necessary service can be offered for a donation to AEF.
3. Each unit meeting may offer a collection box/bottle/cup that members can use to drop in a dime, for example, whenever certain words or phrases are used. For example, if the Legion is referred to as “men” and not legionnaires, if the word “can’t” is used etc.
4. Remember to S.M.I.L.E.

In order to share fund raising ideas, the Wisconsin Department will offer a SMILE with a Heart award at Department convention to recognize the unit with the most successful fund raising program. Individual members that donate \$50 or more will receive a pin.

A midyear narrative report (by December 31, 2017) and a year-end report (by May 1, 2018) reflecting the AEF activity to date will be due. Any further activity after those dates may also be reported until July 1, 2018.

Resources:

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN: **Elaine Mackenzie**, Department of Vermont
elainemackenzie61@gmail.com ♦ 802-878-0726

NATIONAL CENTRAL DIVISION CHAIRMAN: **Ann Flanagan**, Department of Illinois
aflanaganaux@gmail.com ♦ 618-588-4522

Committee contact information – aef@ALAforVeterans.org

“Before you Begin” and AEF brochure and current assistance request form: www.ALAforVeterans.org

Other resources available: www.operationhomefront.net for general financial assistance for military families; www.211.org referral program for local help with food, housing and employment; www.fns.usda.gov/snap supplemental nutrition assistance program; www.fema.gov disaster assistance.