



JUNE 2020 MEMBERSHIP IMPACT REPORT

A Report from American Legion National Headquarters



VOICES

"Where the law has been broken, justice must be served. Where freedom has been denied, it must be returned, without prejudice. Our nation has much to consider as we continue to strive toward a shared goal found in the Pledge of Allegiance to our flag: 'with liberty and justice for all.' All means all. Anything less than complete equality in the execution of these values today is as un-American now as it was in 1923."


- American Legion National Commander James W. "Bill" Oxford, in a June 12 statement responding to the national conversation around law enforcement and race

 **\$503,223**

Amount donated to the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation between June 1, 2019, and May 31, 2020, to assist organizations that provide support and services for young people facing challenges beyond their control.

 **108**

Number of U.S. flag respect inquiries from around the nation The American Legion Americanism Division handled during June.

 **10,000**

Minimum number of protective face masks made and distributed through mid-June by members of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 23 in Spirit Lake, Iowa, over a 10-week period.



\$21,600

Amount in American Legion National Emergency Fund cash grants distributed to veterans and posts in June to help them after natural disasters.



659

Number of participants in the 2020 American Legion Department of Texas Boys State program in June, conducted online virtually, due to the coronavirus pandemic.



2,500

Minimum number of unserviceable U.S. flags properly retired in a June 13 ceremony led by Dale E. Kuhn American Legion Post 119 in Greenfield, Ind., and other local organizations.



\$12,500

Amount in donations presented in June to The American Legion Veterans and Children Foundation (\$10,000) and the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation (\$2,500) by American Legion Auxiliary National President Nicole Clapp, on behalf of the nation's largest organization of veteran spouses and family members.



1,186

Number of VA Informal Hearing Presentations prepared by national American Legion claims specialists in June, working free of charge on behalf of veterans applying for VA disability benefits.



\$600

Amount American Legion Post 3 and its Legion Riders chapter paid in June to erase outstanding school lunch balances at Pyrtle Elementary School in Lincoln, Neb., which serves lower-income families in the community.



\$48,708

Amount in American Legion national youth scholarships disbursed in June.

VOICES

"We must do more to change the culture and conversation surrounding suicide in the public and private sectors and, most importantly, in neighborhoods across the country where the real healing work must start and end. The PREVENTS roadmap shows us how, and I am confident that it will help to save and improve the lives of at-risk veterans and others for years to come."

- U.S. Rep. Phil Roe, R-Tenn., after the President's Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End a National Tragedy of Suicide was unveiled at the White House June 17 in a presentation attended by The American Legion



 **5,000**

Minimum number of meals provided weekly in June for children 18 and under by Dennis T. Williams American Legion Post 310 in San Diego, SD Hip Hop 5K Festival and the San Diego Strike Force football team in a united effort to help families through the pandemic.

 **5**

Number of virtual workshops presented between May 29 and June 30 conducted by The American Legion Employment and Education Division, assisting no fewer than 551 veterans and members of the Armed Forces in their efforts to obtain rewarding careers. Topics included financial literacy, small business financial strategies, federal resume writing, changes to the Paycheck Protection Program and LinkedIn branding.



2,166

Number of American Legion posts nationwide enrolled in the Emblem Sales Flag Rewards Program, which credits posts 10 cents on the dollar for every flag purchased from Emblem Sales for their communities.

MOMENT IN HISTORY

July 7, 1921: The National Education Association, at its annual meeting in Des Moines, accepts The American Legion's offer "to cooperate with the NEA in securing for America a program of education adequate to meet the needs of the 20th century ... and which will make all, whether native or foreign-born, good American citizens." At this time, only 15 million of the 27 million school-age children in America attend school daily. The Legion calls for no less than a high school diploma and two years of professional experience for teachers, urges that English should be the primary language taught and that history and civics be added all curricula.



 **\$5,000**

Amount of an Operation Comfort Warriors grant presented by The American Legion Department of Indiana on June 10 to support the Greenhouse Garden Project – known as “dirt therapy” – for veterans in the VA Northern Indiana Health Care System – in Marion, Ind.

 **224**

Number of cases won in June for veterans using free American Legion services to appeal VA decisions on their disability claims.

 **\$3.6M**

Amount in American Legion Legacy Scholarships awarded so far to the children of military personnel who have lost their lives or became over 50 percent disabled since 9/11.

 **23,298**

Number of opens, most for any story during the month, on the national American Legion website for a June 11 article titled “Civilian climbs 60-foot pole to replace burned flag at California post.”