



VOICES

"Visiting Naval Station Great Lakes facilities, like medical centers and barracks, helps us understand the environment and promote a comprehensive approach to military quality of life, as similar challenges may occur elsewhere."

- American Legion National Security Division Policy Analyst Hanna Begun during an April 15 Base Assessment and Servicemember Experience (BASE) visit to the Navy's largest training installation where Legion advocates learned about labor shortages, infrastructure needs and limited night-time dining opportunities for sailors

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250



Approximate number of jobseekers who participated in an American Legion/Hiring Our Heroes career event April 16 at Fort Belvoir, Va.

400

Approximate number of veteran jobseekers who attended the 9th Annual New Jersey Casino Career Fair April 30 in Atlantic City, supported by the Legion's Department of New Jersey.

3,000+

U.S. flags and other patriotic items for youth distributed by American Legion staffers during a Bring Your Child to Work Day April 23 at the Pentagon.

11

American Legion national youth scholarships awarded in April in the amount of \$36,376.74.



\$5,508,583

Retroactive awards achieved in April for veterans who won their VA claims cases thanks to free assistance from American Legion appeals representatives.

868

VA Informal Hearing Presentations prepared free of charge by American Legion appeals representatives in April.

1,244

Board of Veterans' Appeals dispositions achieved in April for veterans using free American Legion representation. Of those, 36.2% were granted in favor of the veteran, and 33.2% were remanded for further documentation.

58

New VA pension claims handled free of charge by American Legion staff representatives in April.

32

American Legion service officers who received VA accreditation in April.

\$1 million

Amount of a federal grant presented to American Legion Post 66 in Clinton, Conn., secured in April through U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal's office, for a needed restoration of the 1930-built post home there.

\$7 million

Amount in federal grant funding available to veterans service organizations like The American Legion through VA's Highly Rural Transportation Grants Program, which has awarded \$35 million in funds to organizations across 15 states, territories and tribal lands since 2014.

\$2,403,767

Amount in VA debt waivers obtained for families of veterans in April with free assistance from American Legion staff representatives.

VOICES



"I'm just here to help veterans. That's what I do."

- American Legion Department of Oregon Assistant Service Officer Mike Surrent, Post 104, after hearing the words of a widow who received his help in a Death Indemnity Compensation claim with VA, during a System Worth Saving town hall meeting April 27 in Beaverton, Ore.

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53

Contestants who had registered to judge, keep time or otherwise assist with the May 16-17 American Legion National Oratorical Contest at Hillsdale College in Michigan.

3,860

Sites of military/veteran honor and remembrance posted on The American Legion's national memorials database through April.

\$150,000

Donations goal that American Legion National Commander Dan K. Wiley set for the USA 250 Challenge, which supports the Veterans and Children Foundation. [Learn more and help reach the goal.](#)

1,492

American Legion Baseball teams that had begun the registration process through April for the 2026 season.



300+

Grave markers of veterans cleaned and restored since October in an American Legion Family USA 250 Challenge community service project, in honor of the nation's 250th anniversary, led by Sons of The American Legion Detachment of Delaware Commander Rick Wheatley.



60

American Legion recognition certificates distributed in April for achievements in Scouting.



34,720

Rounds of ceremonial ammunition distributed to American Legion posts and departments in April via the Military Surplus Program under the administration of the American Legion National Security Division in Washington.



\$6,028

Amount in American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants disbursed in April for three veteran families with seven minor children that faced unexpected financial emergencies that threatened stability at home.



24

U.S. Flag Code inquiries fielded by staff in the national American Legion Americanism Division in April.



\$21,707

Amount in American Legion Child Well-being Foundation grant funds disbursed in April to two youth-serving nonprofit organizations.



\$33,500

Amount in an American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors grant approved to purchase Tacoma Rainiers professional baseball game tickets, parking passes and limited concessions for 500 at-risk veterans, their families and/or caregivers.

\$866.85

Amount of one American Legion National Emergency Fund grant issued in April to a Tennessee Legionnaire whose home was severely damaged by snow and an ice storm.



110

Volunteers who had registered to judge, keep time or otherwise assist with the May 16-17 National Oratorical Contest at Hillsdale College in Michigan.



200+

Community members who joined an American Legion Family Day event April 25 led by the American Legion Family of Post/Unit 284 in Colonial Heights, Va., which included a Be the One 5K Run/Walk to bring attention to veteran suicide prevention.



16

U.S. servicemembers whose remains were repatriated in April through the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.



7

People who attended the first Train the Trainer program by Columbia University during a multi-day session in Idaho, which paves the way for more people to take Be the One suicide prevention classes.



13

Junior ROTC recognition awards disbursed in April through The American Legion National Security Division, seven for scholastic excellence, six for military excellence and six to high schools.