



VOICES

"It feels marvelous, quite honestly, to accomplish something and for the right cause, for the Veterans & Children Foundation. It's easy to do the right thing when you're doing the right thing."

- American Legion Department of Indiana Commander Ron Patterson, upon completing his 250th mile of rucking June 25, in support of the American Legion Family USA 250 Challenge and the Veterans & Children Foundation; since beginning his mission in September, he has raised over \$22,000 for the VCF and signed up new members of the Legion, Sons of The American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary.

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22

Veterans service organizations that joined The American Legion in a June 29 coalition letter to leadership of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs calling on Congress to pass the Take Care of America's Veterans Act, a nonpartisan bill that contains more than 60 provisions affecting veteran healthcare, benefits, education, transition assistance, caregiver and survivor support, and more.

70

Number of attendees at a Be the One suicide-prevention training session in June at American Legion Post 47 in Rollinsford, N.H., a collaborative effort with American Legion Riders chapters in the region.

40%

Appeals ruled in favor of the veteran by the U.S. Board of Veterans Appeals after free American Legion representation in June. Another 30.7% were remanded for further documentation, and only 17.7% were denied.



\$2,285,342

Amount in retroactive benefits awarded to veterans who succeeded in their appeals of VA claims decisions in June, with free representation by American Legion staff appeals representatives.



1,117

U.S. Board of Veterans Appeals dispositions in June after free representation by American Legion appeals representatives.



19

Newly certified American Legion service officers who received VA accreditation in June.



\$1,341,217

Total in VA debt waivers achieved for survivors and dependents of veterans after free American Legion representation in their cases in June.



30

U.S. Flag Code inquiries fielded in June by the American Legion's Americanism Division at National Headquarters in Indianapolis.



\$97,250

Amount in American Legion national youth scholarships disbursed in June to 36 students.



3 million

Miles logged through June 11 by more than 5,400 American Legion Riders participating in the 2026 Harley Davidson Let's Ride Challenge Ride for Heroes program which offers a \$1 million donation to organizations that help veterans.

VOICES



"When I look at the flag today, I don't just see red, white and blue fabric. I see sacrifice, duty and the faces of the men and women I served with. I see the responsibility I carry as a veteran and as a father. I see the future in my children's eyes and the past in the memories I carry. Most of all, I see a reminder that freedom is both a privilege and a responsibility, one that must be protected, respected and passed on."

-American Legion Youth Programs Manager Aaron Bacon, an Army veteran, who oversees the organization's work in flag respect and advocacy, in a message distributed through American Legion media channels for Flag Day

\$6,650

Amount in American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants disbursed in June, stabilizing the homes of eight children whose veteran parents encountered severe financial hardships.

30

Athletes who had completed the registration process through June to compete in the 2026 American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Championships.

2,868

American Legion Baseball teams from 50 departments that had registered for the 2026 season through June.



5

U.S. servicemembers whose remains were identified or repatriated in June through the American Legion-supported Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency.

60

Eagle Scout recognition certificates distributed in June from The American Legion National Headquarters, to go along with 15 Gold Star recognitions for Girl Scouts and 10 Summit Awards.

19,840

Rounds of ceremonial ammunition, to go along with 48 rifles and 150 clips, distributed to 30 posts in 19 American Legion departments in June, through the Military Surplus Loan Program administered by the National Security Division in Washington, D.C.

59

Number of American Legion Baseball alums who played on teams that advanced to the College Baseball World Series June 12-22 in Omaha, Neb. The University of Oregon led the way with nine players who competed in American Legion Baseball.

\$7,500

Amount raised by Sons of The American Legion Squadron 178 of Murrells Inlet, S.C., for eight different veterans organizations after 211 registrants ran in its June 6 Sweat for A Vet 5K.

\$10,000

Amount of one American Legion National Emergency Fund grant issued to a post in Arkansas that sustained damage from a tornado.



\$38,300

Total of four American Legion Operation Comfort Warriors grants disbursed in June, one for the Alabama PTSD Retreat, another to sponsor six veterans to participate in the Golden Age Games, one for VetBoats and one for a tow-behind grill for the Quincy, Ill., Veterans Home.



1

New American Legion post chartered in June:
Post 1776 in Arkansas.



1

New Sons of The American Legion squadron chartered in June: Florida Squadron 230.



\$2,800

Amount raised over three days in June for the Veterans & Children Foundation by American Legion Family members from Post 125 in North Adams, Mass., who combined to walk 250 continuous miles across the state for the USA 250 Challenge.