



VOICES

"America is facing its most significant threats since World War II. That isn't simple conjecture, or a political talking point. Multiple ongoing crises – compounded by the brutal Hamas terrorist attack against innocent men, women and children in their Israeli homes – bear this out."

-American Legion National Commander Daniel J. Seehafer, in an Oct. 25 message following three weeks of warfare between the terrorist group Hamas and Israel, which has claimed more than 10,000 lives, including at least 30 Americans, and led to the deployment of nearly 1,000 U.S. troops to the Middle East



5,000

Number of individual veterans who pledged to reach out to no fewer than 10 others who served in the military during VA's inaugural National Buddy Check Week Oct. 16-20, an outreach effort modeled after the 2019-launched program of The American Legion.



12

Finalists who will compete in two contests to declare America's funniest veteran or military spouse following a nationwide tour. American Legion member Robin Johnson runs Operation Heal*arious, which held events at American Legion posts in Texas, South Carolina and elsewhere, promoting the Legion's Be the One mission.



\$4,500

Amount donated by Tucson, Ariz., American Legion Post 109 to the Greater Vail Community ReSources Food Pantry Weekend Backpack Program, which provides easy-to-fix weekend and vacation meals for children whose families are facing financial hardship and food insecurity. The donation is expected to provide some 450 weekend meal bags for children in the community.



4,456

American Legion posts that reported Buddy Check operations in the 2022-23 membership year, according to the most recent Consolidated Post Report.



\$2,504

Amount in American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants issued by National Headquarters in October to assist families with children where unexpected financial crises threatened the stability of the home.



9,705

Congressional advocacy actions registered by The American Legion Legislative Division in October, an increase of 154 from the previous month. Most active states were Wisconsin, New York, Indiana, North Carolina and Florida.



49

Number of U.S. Flag Code inquiries handled by the national American Legion Americanism Division in October.



\$8,000

Amount in national American Legion youth scholarships awarded in October to six different students.



\$684,050

Amount in 2024 American Legion Child Welfare Foundation grants approved in October for non-profit organizations that assist young people facing challenges beyond their control.



50

Number of American Legion members and crew from the U.S. Coast Guard Cutter *Waesche* who worked together Oct. 17 to clean up a park in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, following Hurricane Lidia a week earlier.



4

American Legion National Emergency Fund grants awarded in October, for a grand total of \$16,931.64, to help a New York post and individual members recovering from natural disasters, including Hurricane Idalia in Florida.

VOICES

"They want to prevent any suicide they can. They really do. We've had a few people within our department that have experienced it. They're leading the charge to get this done."

-American Legion Department of Missouri Adjutant Lowry Finley-Jackson after the department's fall conference veteran suicide-prevention training program in October had increased emphasis on the national Be the One mission



\$238,750

Amount in Samsung American Legion Scholarships awarded Oct. 7 to 91 participants in the 2023 American Legion Boys State or American Legion Auxiliary Girls State programs.



.286

American Legion Baseball Graduate of the Year and World Series MVP Corey Seager's World Series batting average – including three home runs and a single to break up a seventh-inning no-hitter – to help the Texas Rangers knock off the Arizona Diamondbacks 4-1 in the October Classic. Seager played American Legion Baseball for Post 115 in Kannapolis, N.C.



59

Number of teams that had begun or completed registration for The American Legion 2024 Junior Shooting Sports Postal Match season through October.



2

New American Legion posts chartered in October, one in Tucson, Ariz., and another in Kalamazoo, Mich.



24,800

Rounds of ceremonial ammo distributed to local posts and departments through The American Legion's Military Surplus Program in October, to go along with 84 rifles, 175 clips and one static display.



104

American Legion Scouting certificates of recognition distributed across the country in October, including 100 for Eagle Scouts.



9,192

October downloads of the national American Legion Tango Alpha Lima podcast, third-best month of 2023.



14

New Sons of The American Legion squadrons chartered in October across the country.



102.95%

Standing against goal for Sons of The American Legion membership through October, with a total of 378,642 having joined or renewed thus far.