

AEF IN ACTION

"My husband and I want to thank you for the gift of money. You have no idea how helpful the gift was. God bless our Auxiliary for the generous contribution." —McInnis Family, Louisiana.

"I truly appreciate your help. I was to the point of not knowing where I was going to end up, and your help arrived two days before I was going to lose everything I had worked so hard for. After a long two years dealing with a personal sickness and losing my parents, I was ready to give up. You have given me the hope and faith again that I had lost."

—Auxiliary Member, Pennsylvania

Dennis Conner, U.S. Army Reserve, was deployed at the time his 7-year-old daughter, Kayleigh, suffered a stroke and later suffered a second. Maggie Conner took six weeks' unpaid leave from work to be with Kayleigh at the hospital. With mounting hospital bills, the family was troubled with mortgage payments when they applied for an AEF grant.



"Our family wanted to say thank you very much for the grant money you gave us. This program helps families like ours more than you will ever know." —Dennis, Maggie, Kendryck and Kayleigh Conner.

Thanks to AEF, Kayleigh was able to celebrate her 8th birthday at home."



RESOURCES

www.ALForVeterans.org

Online resource information for military servicemembers and their families that includes organizations providing community and social support, health and wellness services, career and education resources, and legal and financial aid.

www.operationhomefront.net

Operation Homefront emergency financial assistance for servicemembers, their families and wounded warriors when they return home.

www.legion.org ★ (800) 504-4098

The American Legion's Family Support Network connects those in need with a Legion post that can provide assistance with grocery shopping, child care, mowing the grass, fixing the family car and other routine household jobs.

www.211.org

Local community resources for basic needs, physical and mental health services, employment support, etc.

www.fema.gov

FEMA information for preparing, preventing and responding to disasters.

www.redcross.org

Red Cross disaster relief focused on meeting immediate disaster-related needs such as food, shelter, health and mental health services.

<http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/>

Food stamps and government assistance enabling low-income families to purchase nutritious foods.

www.liheap.ncat.org

Links to each state's Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).



American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters

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P: (317) 569-4500 | F: (317) 569-4502

www.ALForVeterans.org

www.ALAFoundation.org

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American Legion Auxiliary

Members Helping Members
in Crisis

Emergency Fund



In the Spirit of Service Not Self for
Veterans, God and Country

AUXILIARY EMERGENCY FUND

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund (AEF) is a national grant assistance program that provides temporary emergency help to eligible members of the American Legion Auxiliary who have suffered a significant financial setback as the result of an act of nature or other personal crisis. The AEF was established in 1969 with a bequest from the estate of Auxiliary member Helen Colby Small of Burlington, Wisconsin. The Fund continues today solely through generous donations from Auxiliary members.



ASSISTANCE INFORMATION

An emergency assistance grant may be awarded by the Grant Committee as determined on a case-by-case basis up to a maximum amount of \$2,400. Funds awarded may be used only for emergency shelter, food or utilities. AEF funds may not be used for medical expenses or debt such as that on credit cards. To ensure the integrity of the program, the national AEF Grant Committee directs payments to the provider such as a mortgage or utility company. Educational grant payments are directed to the educational institution.



WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

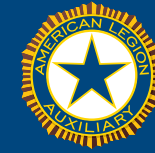
Members of the American Legion Auxiliary whose dues are current and who have maintained membership three consecutive years (the current year and immediate past two years) are eligible to apply in the wake of a financial crisis via the application process initiated through their local unit or department. Temporary assistance may be considered when:

- ★ Natural disaster or weather emergency leaves a member without shelter or food.
- ★ A financial crisis hits, leaving a member without resources for shelter, food or utilities and no other source of aid is readily available.
- ★ In extreme circumstances, educational training is needed for a member lacking the necessary skills for employment.

Eligible members seeking emergency assistance apply via a process that involves their unit, department and ALA National Headquarters.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Members request an application by contacting their unit or department headquarters and must submit their completed applications to an officer of the ALA unit to which the member belongs. The unit president and secretary will complete the unit portion and forward the application to the department secretary. After verifying the member's eligibility, the department secretary will submit the application to National Headquarters for the consideration of the AEF Grant Committee. Applications are reviewed by the national AEF case manager. The national AEF Grant Committee, consisting of representatives from the headquarters of The American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary, meets to review each application and awards AEF assistance according to case findings. The AEF maintains the confidentiality of all applicants. AEF applications, reviews, supporting documents and case files are not disclosed or released to anyone outside the AEF Grant Committee.



YOU CAN HELP

BE KNOWLEDGEABLE – Familiarize yourself and your unit members with the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Knowing about this program will make the process easier should you need to help a member apply.

BE AWARE – Learn the application process and fund restrictions, and help members in need contact other nonprofit agencies that might be able to assist them.

BE GENEROUS – Contributions sustain the Auxiliary Emergency Fund. Help can only be provided to members facing a crisis because of your generosity.



Please mail a check or money order, payable to American Legion Auxiliary National Treasurer, with "AEF" in the memo line. Mail to:

American Legion Auxiliary
National Headquarters
ATTN: Donations, 8945 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, IN 46260 or give online
at www.ALAforVeterans.org.

Those contributing \$25 or more receive a lapel pin bearing the AEF's motto of "Women Helping Women." Those donating \$100 or more will receive a personalized certificate of appreciation.