



#StillServing VFW Community Support Grant 2022-2023 Overview and Application

Overview & Eligibility

- This grant is offered exclusively to VFW Posts and Auxiliaries to offset expenses incurred while doing a community service project. Districts, Departments, VFW subordinate organizations, etc. may not apply. Both a VFW Post and its Auxiliary can receive funding from this grant during the grant cycle. Applicants are limited to one Community Support Grant award during the October 1, 2022 – June 1, 2023 cycle.
- The maximum grant award is \$1,500, the minimum request amount is \$500. Posts or Auxiliaries may make multiple requests so long as the total amount received does not exceed \$1,500.
- To be eligible, the applying Post or Auxiliary must be in good standing with VFW National, meaning they must not be suspended, in financial arrears or have an incomplete election report on file at VFW National Headquarters.
- VFW Posts and Auxiliaries may both receive this grant, but each must have its own project.
- This grant will close once the deadline of June 1, 2023 has passed. If all budgeted funding has been disbursed before that date, this grant will close earlier.
- This is a reimbursement-based grant opportunity. An applicant will need to have first completed a qualifying project prior to applying. Once an applicant has completed a qualifying project, they may submit an application accompanied by sufficient proof of how the funds were utilized. Submission instructions can be found on the last page of this document.
 - Only requests for projects completed after July 1, 2022, will be considered.
 - **Applicants are highly encouraged to contact the VFW Foundation to confirm that their project qualifies if they are uncertain if it meets the criteria listed below prior to starting their project.**

Qualifying Grant Projects

There are two project types that qualify for funding through this grant:

1. Community service projects operated directly by the Post or Auxiliary. Examples include but are not limited to: Hosting a PTSD stand down event, facilitating a coat drive for the homeless, maintaining Post owned vehicles that transport veterans to medical appointments, etc.
2. Making a repairs or renovations to a Post home. To be eligible for a VFW Community Support Grant, **request for such projects must clearly explain how the repair or renovation benefited their community.**

VFW FOUNDATION

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Ineligible Grant Use and Restrictions

Funding will not be awarded to support activities related to required official VFW programs such as the purchase of Buddy Poppies, donations to VFW National or Department Service Officer programs, etc. The grant will not be awarded to defray general operating costs of Post. Funding will not be awarded to applicants requesting to support any individual, for-profit or non-profit organization. Requests to support projects that are fundraisers for a VFW Post, individual or other organization will not be considered. Requests to support projects that solely benefit members of a particular race or religion will not be considered. The grant will not be awarded in support of repairs made to a Post canteen. This grant cannot be used to support political causes or candidates. Only a Post or its Auxiliary may receive funding for a Post home repair or renovation project. The organization that does not submit a request for a repair may still receive this grant for a qualifying community service project. The VFW Foundation reserves the right to make changes to the application guidelines at any time.

Review Process Information

Grant requests are reviewed in the order they are received. Applicants can expect to be notified of a decision within two weeks of their request being received by the VFW Foundation. If the request has been approved, an ACH (an electronic funds transfer) for the award amount will be sent to the applicant's bank account that is on file at VFW National Headquarters. If the request has been denied, the grant contact, and/or Post officers, will be contacted by members of the VFW Foundation staff.

Proof of Spending

Along with the application form, proof of spending must be provided at the time of submission. Qualifying forms of spending proof include:

- Copies of canceled, cashed checks received from your bank.
- Photocopied receipts that show a typed amount, recipient name and date. Invoices on company letterhead are also acceptable.
- A line item, highlighted bank statement that clearly shows who received the funding.

Ineligible Forms Proof of Spending

The following are unacceptable forms of proving spending:

- Handwritten or loose, individual receipts.
- Invoices not on company letterhead.
- Bank statements with line items that do not clearly show who the recipient was.
- Before and after photographs.

If you have any questions about any of the information provided in this overview, please contact Grants Coordinator Jason Couch at jcouch@vfw.org before applying.

PLEASE NOTE: The VFW Community Support Grant Guidelines are general in nature, and the VFW Foundation reserves the right to amend, modify or waive these guidelines, in whole or in part, if the VFW Foundation deems it is in its best interest to do so. Final approval of grant awards and funding amounts are subject to exclusive determination and discretion of the VFW Foundation Board and its decisions are not subject to review.

#StillServing VFW Community Support Grant 2022 - 2023

#StillServing VFW Community Support Grant Application 2022 - 2023 **Page 1/2**

Print or Type responses in the space provided. If printed, please use legible writing. **COMPLETING ALL FIELDS IS REQUIRED.** Posts and Auxiliaries may not submit a joint application; each applicant must submit their own form. If a legible, working email address for the grant contact is not provided, the request will not be considered.

Are you applying on behalf of a VFW Post or a VFW Auxiliary? (SELECT ONLY ONE).

Post ____

Auxiliary ____

Post or Auxiliary Number _____

Employee Identification Number (EIN) _____ Tax Status 501(c) ____

*This information can be found on your most recent tax return (Form 990)

Please provide your Post or Auxiliary's full **MAILING** address

Street Address _____

City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Post/Auxiliary Phone Number _____

Grant Contact Person Name _____ Grant Contact Person Position _____

Contact Person Phone Number _____ Email _____

Name of Applying Organization's Commander or President _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Name of Applying Organization's Quartermaster or Treasurer _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Amount Requested (Up to \$1,500) _____

Signature of Post Quartermaster or Auxiliary Treasurer

_____ Date Signed _____

Signature of Post Commander or Auxiliary President

_____ Date Signed _____

By signing you agree to all the terms and conditions stated in the application overview. You agree to provide copies of all receipts, or other sufficient proof of spending, are included with this application and understand the staff of the VFW Foundation may request additional information or documentation before making a decision.

USING COMPLETE SENTENCES, ENUMERATE AND ANSWER ALL OF THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS IN 200 TOTAL WORDS OR LESS USING THE LINES BELOW:

(Applicants may provide their answers on a separate sheet of paper, so long as the responses are numbered, and the total word count does not exceed 200 words).

1. What are you requesting a reimbursement for?
2. Who was impacted by your project and how? (Seniors, youth, veterans, etc.)
3. Please precisely explain how you spent the funding you are requesting reimbursement for. For example, if you provided holiday meals for the needy, give a dollar amount for each expenditure. Explain how much was used to purchase food, how much was spent on dinnerware, etc. An acceptable response might be, "We spent \$100 purchasing plastic tableware, foil pans and containers, \$600 on turkeys and \$300 on ingredients for side dishes."
4. How did this project better facilitate involvement between members of your Post or Auxiliary and their community?

Submit your completed application and proof of spending by:

Emailing the scanned items to:

Jcouch@vfw.org

OR

Mailing them to:

Jason Couch
Grants & External Coordinator
VFW Foundation
406 W. 34th St., Suite 920
Kansas City, MO 64111