

National Home/ "Buddy" Poppy
Bulletin #3 - November 2022

"Buddy" Poppy

I hope you had an enjoyable time distributing our VFW "Buddy" Poppies for Veterans Day! It was a wonderful opportunity to share that we "Honor the Dead by Helping the Living." This little flower of remembrance keeps the stories of our veterans alive and memorializes our fallen heroes. **The donations we collect go into our "Relief Fund," and are used to help our veterans, their families, and our communities.** Anyone can distribute "Buddy" Poppies anytime - not just on Holidays. It is also great to have "The Story of the VFW "Buddy" Poppy" to hand out, especially to children. It is an educational tool. It tells the child (and parent) about Flanders Fields, and what the poppy represents. It is available from the VFW Store Catalog, #4500, 100/\$9.00. Page #102, phone #1-833-839-8387.

VFW National Home

When you tell people about "Buddy" Poppies, it is a wonderful time to promote the VFW National Home as well. Families of those left behind from war can remain together keeping the family circle intact even when their service member did not come home. The National Home has evolved to meet the needs faced by families: Reintegration; Post traumatic Stress; Unemployment; Rehabilitation from battlefield injuries.

Hand out the **National Home Help-line** cards, with the phone number, **(1-800-313-4200)**, for veterans or their family members who might need assistance from the knowledgeable staff. There is also a website – www.nationalhome.org – with some wonderful stories of families that have been helped.

Why do we promote "Buddy" Poppies and National Home together? This helps us inform the public about opportunities to support and honor veterans through their donations. Veterans assemble "Buddy" Poppies, and they receive some compensation for their efforts. The program also provides financial assistance for service programs and partially supports the National Home for Children.

How to promote? Access the tools available to Auxiliary members on the National website's "Program and Publicity Resources" page, at vfwauxiliary.org/resources. All of this is on our website too. auxdeptwa.org

Tools include:

- * [The Buddy Poppy Chairman's Guide](#) – especially for distribution ideas and the National display contest rules.
- * Video – [The Veterans Behind the "Buddy" Poppy](#).
- * A [Virtual Tour of the National Home for Children](#).
- * Learn about donation options on the National Home website at vfnationalhome.org/you-can-help/.
- * Join forces with your other Auxiliary Program Chairmen. When they have an event, ask if you may distribute "Buddy" Poppy and National Home materials.

Please go to the Dept. of WA website, at auxdeptwa.org to find your year-end report.

[Bee the Change](#) that you want to see, for "Hands That Serve, Hearts That Care."

Loyally,

Barbara Heston-Moore

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"Buddy" Poppy/National Home Chmn. for 2022-23