## Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin Veterans and Family Support Bulletin September, 2024



www.vfwauxwi.org

**September is Veterans & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness month.** *Encourage Veterans and their Families to Reach out, contact a loved one, express their feelings, and / or to check in with a resource person, and encourage them to check in with you.* Encourage the **crisis line number** 988 then press (1).

**Set up displays** at the library for Veterans and their families to pick up *brochures*, *pamphlets*, *literature*, etc., to view on mental health care, *resource numbers*, *mental health care centers*, *VA*, *PTSD centers* etc.

There are several other resources available for veterans who need help now. Visit **vets4warriors.com** which provides personalized peer support 24/7 and/or call 855-838-8255. For **Mental Health resources by county** in Wisconsin, check out *Mental Health America of Wisconsin to* find mental health resources by county at **mhawisconsin.org** or call 866-948-6483.

Auxiliaries could host, educate, promote, with or without their VFW Post an activity or event for Veterans, their families, on Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health awareness => Invite the veterans and families, community, to Tea time, coffee social or group, book club for mental health/resources, have a speaker come in for education/resources on PTSD or abuse, Humana speaker on copays/funding, support group for caregivers, have a taco social, ice cream social.

There is a Veterans **Outreach and Recovery Program (VORP)** to connect veterans to community services, and provide case management and support, with a special focus on treatment and recovery. **VORP staff** work with community providers and professionals to provide assistance and connection to mental health services. *Keep Moving forward for Veterans*.

"From our Roots to our Branches Extending Service to our Veterans" as we are "Honoring Veterans Together"

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