



MARCH 2020 **MEMBERSHIP IMPACT REPORT**

A Report from American Legion National Headquarters



VOICES

"It's really important to find out if they have any needs, how they're doing. They've always been important, but it feels a bit more important now."

- Roxboro, N.C., American Legion Post 138 Chaplain Chris Talley, on Buddy Checks he and his fellow Legionnaires are conducting to help veterans sheltering at home during the coronavirus pandemic



250

Number of protective masks provided free to health-care providers, to go along with 1,200 pairs of gloves, gauze, wipes and cleaning supplies in 50 kits assembled and distributed by Bethlehem, Conn., American Legion Post 146 on March 21.



24

Number of veterans service organizations, military service organizations and non-governmental organizations who joined The American Legion in a March 23 conference call to coordinate military-support initiatives.



5,300

Approximate number, from a total of 7,600 missing in action from the Korean War, whose remains are north of the DMZ, according to Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Director Kelly McKeague, who spoke at the 60th American Legion Washington Conference March 10.



\$17,915

Amount in American Legion National Emergency Fund grants distributed in March to veterans and posts that suffered damages due to natural disasters.



6

Number of new American Legion posts chartered in March: Alabama 222; Colorado 1920 and 2020; Massachusetts 175; Oklahoma 2020; and Texas 233.



389

Number of VA disability claim decision appeals granted in favor of the veteran after representation by national American Legion appeals experts in March.



27,000

Minimum number of hours logged since 1970 at the Charles George VA Medical Center in Asheville, N.C., by 2020 American Legion VA Volunteer Services Worker of the Year Robert G. Scruggs, a 52-year Paid Up for Life member of Post 77 in Hendersonville, N.C.



1,325

Number of Informal Hearing Presentations prepared by national American Legion staff experts assisting veterans with their disability claims in March.



200

Number of veterans who met with job recruiters in a March 5 American Legion-Hiring Our Heroes career fair in Washington, D.C.



\$13,375

Amount in American Legion national youth scholarships disbursed in March.

VOICES

"It is our purpose in The American Legion to stimulate national solidarity and teamwork, unity of action in every activity which will help to win this war completely and finally in every theater. After that, we want orderly demobilization and adequate jobs and opportunities; the maintenance of individual freedom and the American way of life; the safeguarding of our nation from attack from any and every quarter; and an effective formula for maintaining peace. We have demonstrated to the world during this tragic war the marvelous power of the American people when they face a grave emergency."

- American Legion National Commander Edward N. Scheiberling, March 1945



 **\$6.5 million**

Amount in Samsung Scholarships awarded to 2,266 applicants since the electronics giant entrusted The American Legion to manage a \$5 million trust in 1995 to assist the descendants of U.S. military veterans, in thanks for American defense in the Korean War.

 **48**

Number of American Legion Department Oratorical Contest champions crowned for 2020.

 **18**

Number of children assisted through \$7,019 in American Legion Temporary Financial Assistance grants in March. The grants help financially struggling military and veteran families with minor children who need assistance with housing, utilities, food and clothing.

 **\$36,224**

Amount in American Legion Child Welfare Foundation grants disbursed in March to three organizations that provide important services for young people facing difficulties not of their making.