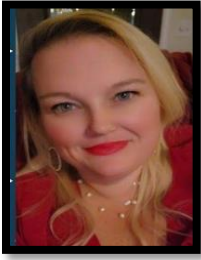


## PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT



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Department President Susie Carter's Special Project for 2023-2024 is the Veterans' Assistance Program (VAP). <https://www.texasvfw.org/veterans>  
VAP is managed by the Texas VFW Foundation. Created by members of the Texas VFW in 2002, this program provides stop-gap financial assistance for basic living needs to qualifying, honorably discharged veterans, their families, and their surviving spouse who are Texas residents. The Veterans' Assistance Program has assisted veterans and their families with rent/mortgage, utilities, vehicle payments, and insurance with over \$6 million in direct financial assistance in the last 11 years.

Madam Department President will continue the work to address surviving spouses during the difficult and sometimes challenging moments after the loss of their Veteran. The funds raised this year will be first utilized on qualifying surviving spouses. We will also work together to educate these individuals on additional resources and potential benefits they may qualify for through the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA). <https://www.va.gov/family-member-benefits/>

All auxiliaries are encouraged to hold a "Tea Party". In slang, *tea* refers to sharing information. Plan an event where information can be distributed to surviving spouses about their potential benefits through VAP and the VA and pass the *Tea*. Auxiliaries are also encouraged to hold a fundraiser for VAP. We're requesting a minimum donation of \$25. Districts are welcome to fundraise and are encouraged to include a brief "Tea" session in a meeting by having your Chair present or a local Veteran County Service Officer.

Make checks payable to **VFW Auxiliary, Department of Texas** notate "**President's Special Project**" in the MEMO field. Mail to:

**VFW Auxiliary, Department of Texas, ATTN: Treasurer, PO Box 15285, Austin, TX 78761-5285**

All reports should include descriptions on donations, fundraisers, and "Tea Parties" held. Please attach a copy of the donation check(s). Monthly reports are not required. Attach pictures, write-ups, newsletters, Facebook postings, written narratives, and anything that helps your program stand out to your Mid and Year-End Reports.

### AWARD FOR PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT

- Plaque to Auxiliary who donate the most money to the Veterans' Assistance Program. Citation to second and third.
- Plaque to Auxiliary who hosts the Best All-Around "Tea Party", based on promotion of event, attendance/participation, information/presenter, how both VAP & VA Benefit information is shared. Citation to second and third.