

# National Military Services (NMS) Overview

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National Military Services – Military Assistance Program (MAP), Operation Uplink and Unmet Needs provide support to the troops and their families via our VFW/Auxiliary membership.

## Military Assistance Program (MAP)

- MAP is the link between the VFW and the military community.
- In 2008-09, MAP events provided interaction with more than 300,000 service members and families
- Opens the door for new initiatives
- MAP Grants promote VFW Post, District and Department involvement and interaction with local military community
- Adopt-A-Units increased 30% over 2007-08. Almost 700 units are currently adopted by VFW Post and Auxiliaries

## Operation Uplink

- Connected over 11 million troops since 1996 through phone cards and Free Call Days
- In 2008-09, Operation Uplink provided over 1.6 million connections
- Providing Free Call Days on a monthly basis
- Alternative methods to provide connections are available for troops overseas in Germany, Korea, Japan and Africa. Contact the NMS office for details
- Sprint virtual PINs are available for VA Hospitals and wounded warriors

## Unmet Needs

- Since program began in 2004, Unmet Needs has assisted over 2000 families with grants totaling over \$3.2 million
- In 2008-09, Unmet Needs assisted over 390 families with grants totaling over \$610,000
- Grants paid directly to creditor – not to service member, with maximum payment of \$2,500
- Department Assistance for applicant with immediate need. Department verifies eligibility and need; contact NMS Director for pre-approval; submit completed Unmet Needs application for reimbursement

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**Troop Support**