

# VFW National Home for Children

# Press Release

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## **UAW and its Veteran's Committee Honored with the VFW Gold Medal of Merit**



**Eaton Rapids, Mich.** - The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) awarded their prestigious Gold Medal of Merit to the United Auto Workers Veterans Committee in recognition of their work done for the veteran community and the VFW National Home for Children. The award presentation took place on August 30 at the UAW's Black Lake Education Center.

The Gold Medal of Merit is awarded by the VFW for exceptional service rendered to country, community and mankind and is the highest honor they award. The UAW was honored with this award for their tireless efforts in the community as evidenced by their nationwide effort to build the new Stephen P. Yokich home on the campus of the National Home.

UAW President Ron Gettlefinger, along with UAW Vice President Cal Rapson, accepted the award on behalf of the Veteran's Committee. Past Commander-in-Chief of the VFW and former National Home Trustee James Mueller presented the award.

James Mueller was elected Commander-in-Chief of the VFW in 2005. While Commander-in-Chief, he also served as a trustee of the National Home, and was instrumental in welcoming a new partnership between the UAW, its Veteran's Committee and the VFW National Home for Children. Mueller chose the UAW to be the recipient of the award while he served as the Commander-in-Chief.

In 2006, Mueller, Gettlefinger and Rapson, took part in a ribbon cutting ceremony for the Yokich home on the National Home campus.

A proud retiree of the General Motors' Parts Division, and a UAW member, Mueller was an integral part in ensuring the UAW Veteran's Committee received proper recognition from the VFW for their enduring compassion and continuous efforts to make a difference within the community.

Since 1925 the VFW National Home for Children has provided Help, Hope and Honor for the children and families of our nation's military and veterans. For more information please call (517) 663-1521, toll-free at (800) 424-8360 or visit [www.vfnationalhome.org](http://www.vfnationalhome.org)

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