

# VFW National Home for Children

3573 S. Waverly Road ~ Eaton Rapids, MI 48827 ~ [vfnationalhome.org](http://vfnationalhome.org)

**Contact: Public Relations Department**  
(800) 424-8360  
[mail@vfnationalhome.org](mailto:mail@vfnationalhome.org)

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## **Illinois Celebrates, Donates During Annual State Day**

**Eaton Rapids, Mich.** – Amidst the beautiful fall foliage, the campus of the VFW National Home for Children played host to the great state of Illinois on October 2-3. Members from the Dept. of Illinois traveled to the National Home for the annual Illinois State Day. The annual event kicked off another year of support from the Illinois membership.

On October 2, several Dept. of Illinois members enjoyed a hotdog roast with National Home staff and residents. Much to the surprise and delight of the children, the Oscar Meyer Wiener Mobile made a guest appearance. Special thanks to Department President Jolynn Altvatter for setting up this special surprise.

The following day more than 120 members joined Dept. Commander Jules Spindler and Dept. President Altvatter for a fun filled day, complete with tours of the campus, food, and time spent with residents of the Home. Dept. Ladies Auxiliary VFSC Mercie Woolfolk and Dept. National Home Chairman Bob White helped plan the annual event.

After a morning of fun and food, the National Home's Patriot's Chorus opened up the program with the singing of the National Anthem, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by 2008-2009 Buddy Poppy Marie Streffling.

Dept. Commander Spindle and President Altvatter then expressed their support of the National Home, followed by words of thanks and appreciation by National Home District Trustee Dave Havely and Executive Director Patrice Green.

Concluding the program was the traditional "parade of checks." Members of various posts and auxiliaries presented donations to the National Home, contributing more than \$29,000.

The VFW National Home for Children thanks everyone involved for their hard work in throwing another great celebration. The staff and residents are truly appreciative of the generosity and benevolence expressed from the Department of Illinois members.

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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