

Let's All Help Celebrate the VFW National Home for Children's 85th Birthday

Jan Tittle, 2009-10 National President is asking Ladies Auxiliary Departments, Conferences, Districts, Auxiliaries and members to join together during the National Home's 85th Birthday Year to purchase a **wonderful birthday gift for the children to take care of a very special need.**

Starting in December 2010, a new state law changes requirements for transporting children, so.....

The National Home needs a mini-bus!

Please join in and send the National Home a **Special Birthday Card with a generous gift to help purchase the bus.** The goal is to raise \$60,000.

Your cards will be displayed at the National Home and will fill in a large outline of a mini-bus. A filled-in mini-bus will result in a real mini-bus filled with kids!

President Tittle will visit the National Home on January 13, 2010 to attend the Home's 85th Birthday Party. She will be formally presented with a list of all the mini-bus Birthday Gift donors.

Let's have the mini-bus on the wall filled by then!

Note: The National Home still needs your help with Campbell UPC codes for small van – which are still much needed – so please keep those labels coming!



Those who wish can also send in a fun or special keychain. The kids will select their favorite keychain which will become the Mini-Bus' Official Keychain!



Example of how the mini-bus may look.

VFW National Home for Children Mini-Bus Project Summary

The VFW National Home for Children's Daycare is licensed by the State of Michigan.



Beginning December 2010, a new law prevents transporting Daycare children in vans rated with a seating capacity of 11 or more.

The National Home routinely transports 11 or more children - during a typical year, the Daycare needs to transport 11 or more children at least 60 times for educational field trips and for on-campus transportation to the Community Center in bad weather.

The National Home has need of a mini-bus for other purposes as well. For example:

- During the past year, there were 38 different occasions a mini-bus would have increased the number of residents able to participate in events such as sporting events, educational field trips, and community service trips to volunteer at locations such as veterans hospitals and to do cemetery clean up and flag-placing projects.
- The Recreation Department will use the mini-bus as many as 35 times a year.
- During the summer, the Education Department has the potential need to transport groups of children regularly.



The National Home is in need of a mini-bus due to the new regulation and for these other uses as well.

The mini-bus will seat 29 including the driver.

The mini-bus meets or exceeds all State and federal laws for transporting children.

Staff who will drive the mini-bus will be required to obtain a Commercial Drivers License.



The mini-bus will be displayed at the National Home's booth during the 2010 National Convention.

Funds donated for the mini-bus will be used to purchase the bus, and funds in excess of the purchase amount will be used for bus maintenance, fuel and other transportation needs.



Please send your birthday card and gift earmarked for mini-bus to:

VFW National Home for Children
3573 S Waverly Rd
Eaton Rapids, MI 48827