



Veterans of Foreign Wars National Home for Children

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80TH YEAR BEGINS WITH SUCCESS *National Home Exceeds \$80,000 Birthday Goal*

Eaton Rapids, MI—An amazing \$138,690.49 in unrestricted donations is the end result of the VFW National Home for Children \$80,000 for 80 years fundraiser. This success sets the stage for a yearlong celebration and opportunities to raise awareness, understanding and support for the historic, healing childcare agency and living memorial.

From January 1 to February 28, 2005 the National Home received 1,528 birthday cards, including 1,456 gifts from Posts, Auxiliaries and individuals across the nation. Department National Home Chairmen were the driving force behind the fundraiser, encouraging donations and support as a contest amongst other chairmen nationwide.

“The success of this program is entirely due to the efforts of all Department National Home Chairmen,” said Patrice Green, National Home Executive Director. “Because of their help, this was one of the most cost efficient fundraisers ever for the National Home.”

Because the \$80,000 goal was both reached and surpassed, three expenses-paid trips to the National Home were awarded—one for both the Department VFW and Ladies Auxiliary National Home Chairmen with the highest per-capita donations and a Post or Auxiliary randomly selected from those that sent a birthday gift.

The Department of Kentucky takes top honors in the successful fundraiser, raising a per capita average of \$0.31 per member for this fundraiser alone. Malcolm L. Gass and Donna Wimsatt, Department of Kentucky VFW and Ladies Auxiliary National Home Chairmen have been awarded a special trip to visit the National Home’s historic 629-acre campus.

Ladies Auxiliary to the Mitchell-Triplett-Smith Post #7428 in Hoisington, Kansas is the lucky winner of a random drawing from all birthday gift givers. Two representatives from the Auxiliary will be special guests of the National Home for a three-night stay in the Margaret A. Armstrong Guest Lodge.

All 1,528 birthday cards are on display in the National Home Community Center auditorium. They will remain on display for the summer and fall tour seasons. Visitors are encouraged to contact the Public Relations Department at (800) 424-8360 to plan a tour of the National Home campus in its 80th year.

Since 1925 the VFW National Home for Children has been providing for the children and families of our nation’s veterans, while at the same time serving as a living memorial to our nation’s heroes. For more information on the National Home, please call (517) 663-1521, toll-free at (800) 424-8360 or visit www.vfnationalhome.org.

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A Community of Promises Kept for 80 Years

Press Release