

## AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA Auxiliary Emergency Fund/Office of Emergency Services March 2024

With our California winter storm season upon us with rain, wind, and flooding, if your primary residence sustains damage, remember to utilize the opportunity of receiving an AEF temporary emergency disaster assistance grant. More comprehensive details about this type of grant were included in the February bulletin.

This winter may also affect ALA members in other ways and an AEF hardship assistance grant is also available to eligible ALA members. The qualifications to apply for hardship assistance include being an American Legion Auxiliary member who has maintained ALA membership for three consecutive years (the current year and immediate past two years). Only one grant (either hardship or disaster) per grantee in a 12-month period will be awarded. Grants awarded are up to \$3000.

The types of expenses that may be considered for temporary hardship assistance may include funds for past/overdue expenses related to residing in your primary shelter, basic household utility expenses, and/or loss of income due to medical and/or employment reasons within the last six months.

Expenses NOT applicable or covered by a hardship assistance grant are medical expenses, credit card debt, taxes, general loans, insurance, cellular/TV services, animal care, car purchase/payments, or home/vehicle maintenance repairs.

If you are an eligible members suffering any financial hardship, please consider putting in an application. The application process is private and all the information, process to apply, and the application form can be found on the National website: alaforveterans.org.

Please consider making an Individual, Unit, or District donation to the AEF grant program. The Donation form – "AEF California Donation Form" - is on the Department website (calegionaux.org) under the AEF Committee/Program page.

Remember AEF donations of \$100 made by ALA members directly to ALA National Headquarters within the ALA fiscal year (October – September), will receive by mail a beautiful "Members Helping Members" gold pin. AEF pins are sent quarterly from ALA National Headquarters to the member's home address once a qualifying donation is made.

Keep the spirit of "Members helping Members" thrive.

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