

## **Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, Inc.**



### **National Welfare Officer Report February 2018 Ann Marie Roberts**

Your Excellency Bishop Higgins, National Chaplain Monsignor Edward Coyle, National Commander Francis Kowalski, National Board of Officers, Department Commanders, Past National Commanders, and Past National Chaplains and membership present;

#### **First Half Year Report (June 15-December 31-2017)**

The summary of this report consists of (four (4) parts: introduction, accounting of type of membership body (i.e. posts with Departments, Posts without Departments, Individual Membership, and Departments), additional and final and summary statements applicable to the second half of the reporting year.

I am very happy to have been elected as the National Welfare Officer for the term of 2017-2018. The confidence you bestowed in me and the prayer support certainly helped me in revising the Welfare Officer Report Form and related parts to the National Welfare Officer Program-Ministry. Ministry is a word I like to use because it reflects the 'Catholic Action and Spirituality' of our organization, Catholic War Veterans, USA, Inc.

#### **Membership Body Reported**

Membership body is growing. As of January 24, 2018, there were more than three Departments that reported in the good works of Catholic Action and Spiritual Support. There were over 12 Posts that reported their Welfare work for veterans and their families in many areas before the end of January too. What is exciting and new is the reporting of some are individual members who volunteered in veteran ministry in the community, parish, veteran's home, and VA hospitals as a VAVS volunteer in Alfred E. Smith Post 4. The welfare of all military, veterans and their families is definitely graced by the Catholic action of its Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America.

## Tabulation of Welfare Officer Report

The welfare of all veterans, military and their families is a growing active voice for volunteer activities, especially where 'Veteran Administration Volunteer Services/VAVS in VA hospitals, and providing numerous care packages to those deployed in local parishes and in the community at large are achieved. Attached to this report includes the [definition of each of the volunteer work areas in the major categories that follows]. The first category of VOLUNTEER & ASSISTANCE total volunteer hours spent exceeded 4,000 hours-(4,589). Over half of this amount was the volunteer hours as a VAVS volunteer. The second category in the Welfare Officer Report is SPIRITUAL & HONORS. The total participation in the area of Spiritual and Honors is 150,825 hours. Of these hours Honor Guard, parish veteran ministry and decorating graves, and Eucharistic Minister represented two-thirds (2/3's) of the total hours. The third major category titled, "OTHER WELFARE ACTIVITIES total volunteer hours was 7,065 hours. The amount spent or donated in the area of 'Volunteer & Assistance, Spiritual and Honors, and Other Welfare Activities was: \$55,122.32. While these numbers may seem impressive, imagine what they would be 'if' all Posts and Departments filed their Welfare Officer Program Report.

### Final Comments

Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, Inc. consistently keeps faith with its Founder, the teachings of the Catholic Church, its Option for the Poor, and homeless and wounded veterans, their families and the people of God. The Welfare Officer Program has sought to seek for spiritual and Catholic action through the examples of FR. Vincent R. Capodanno, MM, Servant of God, St. Vincent de Paul, and St. Martin of Tours. Attached to this narrative report of the Welfare Officer Program is the definitions to the areas of service, letter of Mr. George Phillips, Executive Director of the Father Vincent Capodanno Guild, and the and the explanations of who the two Saints are that the Welfare Officer Program wishes to award Catholic War Veterans, USA members for their work and prayer for all veterans and their families. Finally, it is the hope that more Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America report on its work and prayer for our Welfare Officer Program.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Marie Roberts,  
National Welfare Officer for Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America