

American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
District 28
Auxiliary Emergency Fund
Report – November 2021

Madame President, Officers, Chairmen and Members,

The Auxiliary Emergency Fund was established in 1969 through a very generous gift from Helen Colby Small of Burlington, Wisconsin. Today, the funding for AEF grants is derived from unit and member donations and is available to members who have exhausted all other personal and community resources due to financial hardship, natural disaster, or the need for competitive job skill education. Members of the American Legion Auxiliary whose dues are current and who have maintained continuous membership for three consecutive years (the current year and immediate past two years) are eligible. Up to \$2,400 in temporary emergency assistance can be provided. The grant may only be used for shelter or utilities.

This year the Western Division AEF Chairman issued a challenge for all units nationwide to donate a minimum of \$1.00 or more per member, based on your unit membership as of July 31, 2021. I am encouraging all Unit AEF chairmen to take up a collection for AEF at each meeting, and then sometime in the late spring send the money collected to the American Legion Auxiliary, National, at the address noted on the AEF Contribution Form that is in your unit packets today. An AEF donation jar is being circulated here – so empty your change purses and donate those quarters, dimes, nickels and pennies – that change really does add up! And thank you for anything you are able to give!

There are two application forms for AEF assistance – Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA) for ALA Members, and TFA for Members Affected by Disaster. Both applications are available on the Department website and both include instructions to complete the forms.

Mid-Year AEF reporting forms are also included in the unit packets. Unit chairmen are asked to return the completed form to me by December 1, 2021.

This concludes my report, Madame President.

Susan Baker, Chair