

Comrades and Auxiliary members,

Last week our State Female Homeless Veterans chairman Tammie Smith, and Gabe Forsberg (Stand Down Organizer Exc. Committee) VFW Aux member were informed that all the items stored at Cactus Storage, 59th and Cactus in Glendale, Az. has been stolen. Cactus Storage, donated the space to Tammie and Gabe, for the sole purpose of storing ALL items for the stand down female and children's section. Including the tables used to set up and children's items at the stand down. I have been informed that there is video of the entry and departure of 3 trucks in this theft. Our chairman Tammie, has been shopping and storing items for the stand down since March, 2015. The 10x15, space was full. This is a devastating blow to our VFW organization, Tammy and Gabe.

So while all the legalities are being worked on WE, have a problem. There is NOTHING to provide for our female veterans and their families. It is being requested that we ALL help in providing the items listed on the attached wish list. Also, this year, jeans are needed (all sizes) ladies clothing (gently used), shoes, purses, jackets, coats and children's items.

Monetary donations are also being requested if you can not provide items for the stand down. Monetary donations can be sent to the District 3 Quartermaster;  
Ruben Quesada, P.O. Box 1178, Tolleson, Az. 85353, earmarked: Phoenix Female Standdown.

This is an urgent request to the Department of Arizona's VFW, Auxiliaries and VFW Riders as the stand down has been moved up a month to January 28 - 29, 2016.

For item donation please call the following;

Tammie Smith - 623-256-5634  
Gabe Forsberg - 602-686-1512  
Sheila Lee-Eiler - 602-475-5477

Loyalty,

Sheila Lee-Eiler  
Conductress - Scholarship  
Chairman Department of Arizona Auxiliary

Clothing + items can be brought to Post 9399-  
by Jan. 18<sup>th</sup> + they will be taken to the Winter  
Conference in Casa Grande the next day + given  
to these folks. Otherwise, contact those listed  
above.

## **Wish List Items for the Women Veterans & Family Section**

*Maricopa StandDown (Thursday & Friday January 28 & 29, 2016)*

These are items we collect every year. Notice that we are not looking for used clothes (except for jeans) this year, as we are hoping to partner with Savers to help with that.

- New sweatshirts or hoodies and sweatpants or yoga pants
- Adult backpacks
- Hair ties, combs and brushes
- Hand-knitted or new scarves, hats and gloves
- Tampons (not so many sanitary napkins)
- Nice purses (new or gently used)
- Chapsticks, lip gloss, lotions
- New cosmetics & manicure items
- New or gently used cosmetic bags (like the kind you get when you purchase cosmetics from department stores)
- New underpants (sizes 5 to 13), sports bras and "regular" bras (A to DDD, all sizes)
- New sneakers & socks
- Bags the women can use to carry their goodies (or small rolling luggage or backpacks)
- Pillowcases (these can also be used for women shoppers and donors can usually find some mismatched ones that we could use)
- Rain ponchos that are pocket-sized
- Mylar sleeping bags (they fold very small so they fit into a purse or packpack)

**NEW OFFERINGS** (we are just starting to offer some items for children to get women vets to come in to see what is available for their kids):

- School supplies
- Children's books (really nice ones please)
- Umbrella style strollers for children
- Backpacks for kids
- Gently used or new toys

Gift cards for groceries, drug store items, or gasoline. You can get these to us at any time, as we can also use them to purchase items if you purchase giftcards for Walmart, Walgreen's, Kohl's, Target or other department store. Giftcards (in denominations of \$50 or less) will be given out selectively to women veterans when we cannot help them with the sizes they need or they legitimately require extra help.

### **How to get Donations to StandDown**

If you are able to hold on to these items until very close to the dates, that is ideal. We may not have a space large enough to store and sort items that come in until our setup date on the 27th of January, 2016. You can coordinate bringing the donations to StandDown by contacting Gabe Forsberg at 602-237-4332 or Tammie Smith at (623) 256-5634.