

## Congratulations to VFW Post 7096, Our February Post of the Month

## Strong leadership and members' willingness to 'chip in' make a meaningful impact

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For three consecutive years, VFW Post 7096 in Brooklyn, New York, has achieved 100% membership. Focused on supporting veterans as well as uplifting area youth, its dedicated members demonstrate the good work that is possible when many band together.

In addition to providing vital assistance to its members — like suicide prevention and information about upcoming food drives and job fairs — the Post also participates in various VFW programs throughout the year. By taking part in activities like "Buddy" Poppy distribution and fundraising for VFW's Veterans & Military Support Programs, VFW Post 7096 provides a emotional and financial support to veterans.

To ensure lessons of service and patriotism reach new generations, the Post is heavily involved in the Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy essay competitions. Each year, it encourages area students to participate in the contests to examine and share their views on American history, democracy and modern society Kids who take part have the chance to win a cash prize or scholarship. And they receive support and motivation to achieve their goals from Post members.

As recognition of these efforts and more, VFW Post 7096 was presented with All-American Post status in July 2021. Post Commander Brian Rodriguez attributes this achievement to its members.

"We are honored to have this recognition from our national leadership," said Rodriguez. "Despite the pandemic, we were able to reach this level thanks to our members."

One of only six Posts in the state of New York to achieve this status, Michael Hoag, VFW Department of New York State Commander, agrees with Rodriguez — it was a group effort.

"To me, this is an example of a combination of great leadership and members who are

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willing to 'chip in' to do the meaningful work of the VFW," said Hoag.

With a commitment from all members to protect and support fellow veterans as well as champion and guide new generations, VFW Post 7096 sets the example for an entire community. The VFW is proud to honor the work of its members who are #StillServing.