

NATIONAL SECURITY

The purpose of the National Security Committee is to maintain and promote a strong national defense through strengthening and supporting our military servicemembers and their families and to raise awareness of POW/MIAs and the work being performed by the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in the search for missing personnel and prepare our population for response to natural and other disasters.

Support Active Military

Coordinate *Welcome Home* and *Send-off* events locally.

Send Care Packages to deployed troops.

Support Military Families

Support active-duty military families through working with an installation Family Readiness Group (FRG). Each branch has its own name for their respective group.

Contact military recruiter in your community to inquire about needs of personnel and families that you and your unit might be able to assist with.

Collaborate with like-minded organizations such as Blue Star Families, the USO, and other local organizations to support service members and their families.

Support families whose service members made the ultimate sacrifice through working with organizations such as Gold Star Mothers, Gold Star Families, and the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS).

Raise Awareness of POW/MIAs

Promote use of a POW/MIA flag, chair cover or Missing Man Table at meetings and events.

Recognize POW/MIA Recognition Day – the third Friday in September.

Salute to Servicemembers Award

Promote nominations for the award. One enlisted servicemember from each branch of service and the National Guard/Reserve is recognized at the ALA National Convention. Detailed information is available at <https://www.legion-aux.org/Salute-to-Servicewomen-Award> Be sure to notify the Department National Security Chair if making a nomination.

Other

Participate in *Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)* training.

Join the ALA National Security Facebook group and check the National ALA website frequently for updates.

Excerpted from the ALA Unit Guide (2024, pp.82-83) and <https://www.legion-aux.org/Member/Committees/National-Security/Get-Involved-National-Security>