

VFW Auxiliary Department of Connecticut
“Soaring for Our Veterans” “Serving America’s Heroes”
National Home 2026-2027

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Bulletin 3

I would like to introduce the VFW National Home Buddy Poppy Child. Her name is Noelani. I am 11 years old and in sixth grade. I live in the Minnesota Home at the VFW National Home with my mom, Nicole, and my brother, Deagon. We have lived here for three years.



We were able to move here because of my papa, Staff Sergeant Brian L. Nesbitt, who was a retired Army veteran. He served our country for 20 years as a 31 Mike in the Signal Corps. His duties included setting up and maintaining communications for military units in Texas, Korea, Colorado, Germany, Arizona, and Hawaii. I am incredibly proud of his service and dedication.

Living at the National Home has given me many wonderful opportunities. I have taken piano lessons with Ms. Rhonda and joined my school band, where I play the clarinet and have even tried the bassoon. During my first year here, I sang a solo at the Christmas Piano Recital, and this past Christmas, I performed a clarinet solo. I have also participated in 4-H, where Ms. Laura taught me how to sew. With her help, I made a pillowcase for a project and earned a ribbon, which taught me patience and confidence.

My brother, Deagon, has also benefited from living here. One summer, he worked on the campus work crew to help maintain the grounds. This first job taught him responsibility and allowed him to earn his own money. Living here truly helps children learn both fun activities and important life skills.

Some of my favorite memories include trips to Cedar Point thanks to the Cooties, summer visits to the Aquatic Center, and doing crafts with Ms. Jen and Ms. Nancy in the Community Center. What I appreciate most are the friendships I have made and the special events we enjoy, such as State Days, visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus, Halloween costume judging, and meeting VFW members from across the country.

I want to thank everyone for the opportunities my family and I have been given. These experiences are shaping who I am and helping me grow. I would not be able to participate in these activities without the support, kindness, and friendship of the staff, my family, and the residents here at the National Home



VFW NATIONAL HOME

National Home Helpline Number: 1-800-313-4200 <https://vfnationalhome.org/>