

Impact Statistics Methodology

The impact statistics displayed on this website are intended to measure the direct impact the American Legion Family of Post 581 has on veterans, youth, and the broader community. To ensure these figures reflect community benefit rather than routine organizational operations, only activities that provide a measurable public, charitable, educational, patriotic, or veteran-service benefit are included.

Each impact metric measures a different aspect of community service, including services provided, volunteer effort contributed, and resources invested. For example, a Wednesday Veterans Lunch may be reflected through meals served, volunteer hours, and program expenses. Similarly, when Post 581 provides its facilities rent-free for a charitable fundraiser, the event may be counted as a community event supported and the volunteer hours associated with supporting that event may be included. However, funds raised for another organization or cause are not included in Post 581's impact statistics. Routine organizational operations and fundraising activities that do not directly benefit the community are generally excluded.

The following guidelines are used when compiling impact statistics:

- **Flags & Wreaths Honored** – Includes American flags and memorial wreaths placed, displayed, or distributed for public patriotic and remembrance purposes, including cemetery wreath placements, veteran grave decorations, community displays, and ceremonial observances. Small handheld parade flags and internal organizational displays are excluded.
- **Military Funeral Honors Conducted** – Includes funeral honors, military ceremonies, and graveside services performed for deceased veterans.
- **Free Meals Served** – Includes meals provided at no cost to veterans, active-duty service members, first responders, or community outreach recipients. Meals sold or given as part of fundraising events are excluded.
- **Volunteer Hours Donated** – Includes volunteer service directly supporting veterans, youth, and community programs through outreach, charitable initiatives, free meal programs, patriotic activities, and community events. Hours primarily associated with fundraising, revenue generation, routine administration, facility management, or organizational operations are excluded.
- **Scholarships Awarded** – Includes scholarships provided to students through Post 581 and affiliated American Legion Family programs.

- Reinvested Into Veterans & Community Programs – Includes funds directly invested in veterans, youth, and community-focused programs and initiatives. Routine operating, fundraising, and facility expenses are excluded.
- Lbs of Food Donated – Includes food collected and distributed through food drives, pantry support programs, meal assistance efforts, and related charitable initiatives.
- Community Events Supported – Includes public events hosted, sponsored, organized, or materially supported through volunteer labor, financial contributions, equipment, facilities, or logistical assistance. Member-only activities and events reported through other impact metrics are excluded when practical.

Statistics are compiled from organizational records, financial reports, volunteer logs, program records, and event documentation. Figures are updated periodically and may be revised as additional records, documentation, or historical information become available.