

Auxiliary Outreach

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The Auxiliary Outreach Program is about the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary being in service with other organizations for the benefit of the community. It is a donation of time, not in-kind or monetary donations. Volunteer work can be performed by one member, a group of members or an Auxiliary to improve and show appreciation for the community in which we live and our pride as members of the Auxiliary. This is a great way for Auxiliary Members **“Banding together for our Veterans” to “Let Freedom Ring.”**

Auxiliary Outreach can benefit children, senior citizens, and those with special needs as well as animals, the environment, and public spaces. When we participate in Auxiliary Outreach, we become better citizens of the community in which we live.

While emphasis is placed on our core VFW and Auxiliary programs, we realize Auxiliary members and Auxiliaries also participate with other community organizations. Auxiliaries can now report and be recognized for such community work through the Auxiliary Outreach Program. Projects may be done by the Auxiliary alone or with the VFW Post.

Collectively, all of our volunteer hours need to be counted to effectively show the importance of the local VFW and VFW Auxiliary to the community. Be visible and show your VFW Auxiliary pride by wearing Auxiliary branded attire – shirt, hat, jacket, name badge, etc. The Auxiliary emblem can spark a conversation about the Auxiliary and what we do. It is also a great way to show our members volunteering out in our communities and not just in our Post Homes.

What’s Considered Auxiliary Outreach?

When an entire Auxiliary volunteers for an organization outside our own, it should be considered Auxiliary Outreach if **the project was approved by the Auxiliary and recorded in the meeting minutes prior to the project.** On rare occasions such as a national disaster or emergency community need, the project may be voted on after the fact. (When the entire Auxiliary volunteers and only one member is able to show up, it still counts as Auxiliary Outreach.)

- Participation in walks that benefit other organizations as an event spotter, water station volunteer, timekeeper, etc. (Walking or running in the race is not part of Auxiliary Outreach.)
- Working with local police on child ID kits
- Working with firefighters on fire safety and prevention
- Working with EMTs to host CPR training
- Working with parks and recreation departments to plant trees, adopt-a-park initiatives and develop community art installations
- Volunteering at an animal shelter
- Serving food at soup kitchens
- Delivering food or Meals on Wheels

What's NOT Considered Auxiliary Outreach?

- Volunteer work that is performed for the benefit of the Post or Auxiliary is NOT considered outreach service. Examples of projects that do not qualify include:
- Repairs/maintenance to Post home
- Cooking/serving meals for a Post/Auxiliary fundraiser
- "Buddy" ® Poppy distribution
- VFW or Auxiliary meetings, Conventions, Conferences, or schools of instruction
- Church activities for one specific congregation and not the entire community (e.g., usher, elder, deacon, minister, etc.)

It is important that all partnerships with other organizations are approved by vote of the Auxiliary and recorded in your minutes. When member(s) volunteer their time for projects/programs of other organizations they are representing the VFW Auxiliary and should turn in their service hours to be reported for Auxiliary Outreach.

**REPORT MONTHLY by emailing or sending reports to
Kimberly Grundon (April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024)**

REPORTING GUIDELINES

1. The Auxiliary is to report on how many Auxiliary members participated, the number of hours volunteered and the activity/program they participated in.
2. Fundraisers are NOT considered for this service program IF organized by the VFW or VFW Auxiliary.
3. It is encouraged that you include written descriptions of community projects that were participated in by Auxiliary members, news articles, fliers, and photos.
4. A paper can be passed to members at your monthly meetings so that individual members can report what they have done.

HOW TO SUBMIT MONTHLY REPORTS

1. Email your report to kgrundon@comcast.net with subject line Auxiliary Outreach Program
2. Mail a copy to Kimberly Grundon, 374 Rambo Hill Road, Shermans Dale, PA 17090

NATIONAL AUXILIARY OUTREACH AWARDS AND CITATIONS

1. Most outstanding community partnership with another organization.
2. Citation to every Auxiliary that partners with another organization within their community. Entry form required and available in Malta Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman by March 31, 2024 for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.

3. Citation and \$25.00 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding community partnership. Entry form required and available in Malta Member Resources.

Citations will be mailed to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

DEPARTMENT OF PA AUXILIARY OUTREACH CITATIONS

1. A citation to the Auxiliary Chairman who submits a **REPORT EVERY MONTH.**
2. A citation to one District Chairman in each Membership Division with the best promotion of the Auxiliary Outreach Program. (Must send a written description to the Department Chairman)
3. A citation to one Auxiliary in each Membership Division with the most combined member and/or Auxiliary hours volunteered with another organization not affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary.
4. A citation to one Auxiliary in each Membership Division with the most outstanding community partnership with another organization. (Must submit a written description, photos, fliers, news articles, etc. to the Department Chairman.)

Reminder: Only record number of Auxiliary members/hours volunteered with projects/programs NOT AFFILIATED WITH VFW OR VFW Auxiliary Programs.

ALL OBLIGATIONS INCLUDING AUDITS, BONDS, DELEGATE FEES, PLEDGES, SUPPLIES, ETC. TO NATIONAL, DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS AND DISTRICT MUST BE MET FOR YOUR AUXILIARY/DISTRICT PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMEN TO QUALIFY FOR AWARDS.