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Auxiliary Community Outreach Program

Welcome to a new year in the VFW Auxiliary as we “Honor, Serve and Remember our Veterans with Everlasting Patriotism”.

The Auxiliary Community Outreach Program is a new program this year but not a new experience for Auxiliary members. In the history of the Auxiliary, we have done this same work under the titles of Community Service and Community Activities. National has updated this Program to include what we do without thinking - Community Outreach.

The Auxiliary Community Outreach Program gives us the opportunity to do more with local communities, schools and other civic, faith-based and youth organizations. You probably already volunteer with your local The American Legion, The Disabled American Veterans, Rotary Club, Kiwanis Club, Lions Club, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, or youth sports programs, after school clubs or senior center. The list goes on. Now we have a program to be able to show how much we really do in our communities.

While emphasis is placed on our core VFW and Auxiliary Programs, we realize Auxiliary members and Auxiliaries also participate with other community organizations. Members and Auxiliaries can now report and be recognized for their work in this area. Community Outreach is volunteer work performed by one member, a group of members or an Auxiliary for the benefit of their community or its institutions.

Please Note:

- 1) Auxiliary Community Outreach Program is for projects or events NOT AFFILIATED with VFW or VFW Auxiliary programs.
- 2) Volunteering at Churches or for a specific organization and not the entire community (Sunday School teacher, board member, elder, etc.) is not considered community outreach.
- 3) Volunteer work that is performed for the benefit of the Post or Auxiliary is NOT considered community outreach. Examples of projects or events that do not qualify include:

- i) Repairs or maintenance to the Post home.
- ii) Cooking or serving a meal for a Post or Auxiliary fundraiser.
- iii) "Buddy" @ Poppy distribution.
- iv) VFW or Auxiliary meetings, conventions, conferences or schools of instruction.

Please make sure you read and do the following:

It is important that at the beginning of the Program Year, a motion is made and approved on the floor that when a member(s) volunteer their time for an Auxiliary Community Outreach Program event the member can turn in their hours served to be reported on the Auxiliary Community Outreach Program Reporting form. This will allow the events and projects to be done without having to approve them each time one comes up.

Keep the filled out Auxiliary Community Outreach Program forms as they will be needed to complete the year end report.

NATIONAL AUXILIARY AWARDS

1. Most outstanding Auxiliary Community Outreach Program.
 - ✓ Citation to every Auxiliary that participates in a community event. Criteria and entry form (required) is available at **vfwauxiliary.org/resources**. Auxiliaries **must send the entry form to their Department Auxiliary Community Outreach Chairman by March 31, 2021.** The Department Auxiliary Community Outreach Chairman will send a copy of all submitted entry forms to National Headquarters. Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - ✓ Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding Auxiliary Community Outreach Program.

Department Awards will be announced later