



## AUXILIARY OUTREACH PROGRAM

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***“REACH OUT & PARTNER to VOLUNTEER TIME!”***

*“From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans” as we continue  
“Soaring into the Next Century of Service with Our Veterans and Their Families!”*



*Who? What? When? Where? Why? & How?*

### **WHO should your Auxiliary members approach to establish partnerships?**

- Non- profit, civic and other organizations that support residents, animals, and the environment can be approached in person, by letter or email to offer partnerships that will provide volunteers to help and assist in making their company goals and projects a reality.
- Homeless shelters and Assistance Centers; EMT/Fire/Police Safety Classes/Centers; Red Cross, Cancer, and other charities; animal shelters; fundraisers to benefit the public or community members in need; adopt a highway; Town/City/open areas/community gardens; food shelves and pantries.

### **WHAT steps should an Auxiliary take to have a successful Outreach Program:**

- Partner with non- profit, civic and other organizations that support residents, animals, and the environment.
- Have a MOTION APPROVED AND RECORDED IN THE MINUTES prior to partnering and volunteering TIME.
- At least one (1) member of any age or skill set must volunteer TIME with the other approved organizations.
- Members must WEAR VFW AUXILIARY ATTIRE (shirt, hat, name badge, lanyard, etc.) when volunteering TIME.
- Volunteers should share information about membership eligibility, and Auxiliary programs.

### **WHEN can members establish partnerships, request Auxiliary approval and volunteer TIME?**

- Partnerships can be for single events or for multiple on-coming needs.
- Partnerships need to be approved and recorded PRIOR TO THE EVENTS EACH AUXILIARY YEAR.
- Partnerships/volunteer TIME need to be reported to the Department Chairman to ensure Auxiliary credit.
- Year-end reports must be received by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025, to be eligible for Department and National awards.

### **WHERE can members volunteer TIME and show their community support?**

- Auxiliary members should volunteer TIME with organizations that serves to benefit and improve the community.
- Cook, serve food/drinks, or deliver food to shut-ins; make beds and do laundry at homeless shelters.
- Feed, walk dogs, and clean animal cages; clean, paint, and repair inside/outside community facilities.

- Upkeep public parks & walkways; plant trees and flowers in open areas.
- Read or write letters, teach computer skills to seniors; be a personal shopper for shut ins.
- Register donors at Blood Drives; register and/or time participants and/or provide water to walkers at fund raisers.

### **WHY should an Auxiliary “reach out” to other organizations and establish partnerships?**

- VFW and VFW Auxiliary members being visible in their Auxiliary attire is a win/win.
- Partners benefit from the years of knowledge and experience that volunteers apply to the project.
- Sharing time in the community residents gives Auxiliary members the opportunity to educate the community about the VFW Auxiliary, its programs, goals, and membership eligibility for membership.
- Auxiliary members meet new people, learn new skills, and develop personal confidence.

### **HOW does an Auxiliary get credit for its partnerships and volunteer TIME?**

- Auxiliary Program Chairman report partnership details, volunteer attire and TIME to the Department Chairman by email, USPS, or phone call. Donations, monetary, gift cards or goods, are not reportable.
- Activities that benefit the VFW, the VFW Auxiliary and/or the Post Home do not qualify for credit.
- Activities that are reportable under other VFW Auxiliary programs, do not qualify for credit.
- Auxiliary members are helpers and are NEVER in charge of events and activities for Outreach credit.

### **DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES**

- All Auxiliaries, who report approved partnerships and volunteer TIME by September 30, 2024, will be entered into a drawing for twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) at Fall Conference.
- All Auxiliaries who report approved partnerships and volunteer TIME to the Chairman by December 31, 2024, will be entered into a drawing for twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) at Spring Conference.
- First, second and third place winners will be awarded in each membership group at Department Convention in June 2025.

### **NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES**

- Most outstanding photo collage created by the VFW Auxiliary of their VFW Auxiliary Outreach partnerships during the current Program Year.
- Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that creates the most outstanding photo collage of their VFW Auxiliary partnerships during the current Program Year.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman by March 31, 2025, for judging. The Department Auxiliary Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National Auxiliary Outreach Ambassador by April 30, 2025, for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliary from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

### **NATIONAL AWARDS FOR DEPARTMENTS AND DEPARTMENT CHAIRMAN**

1. A \$25 VFW Store Gift Certificate to one Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best promotion of how to build partnerships outside of the VFW Auxiliary organization.
2. The Outstanding Performance Award and Second-Place Outstanding Performance Award will be awarded in each of the 10 Program Divisions based on criteria listed on Page 5 and for the promotion of the Program goals listed at the top of Page 13 in the National President’s Guidebook.

National winners will be announced, and awards presented at the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.