



South Dakota Department VFW Auxiliary
Auxiliary Outreach
Bulletin June, 2025

National Theme: *From Sea to Shining Sea Honoring Veterans Who Keep Us Free*

Department Theme: *Saluting Our Heroes*

Auxiliary Outreach is a program that enables members of the Auxiliary to reach into their communities by working with and assisting other organizations. The organizations should not be affiliated with the Veterans of Foreign Wars or the VFW Auxiliary. And, working with other organizations in the community can benefit everyone. Auxiliary members can reach out in our communities and assist other organizations with our knowledge and skills.

Here are a few basic steps to help get your Auxiliary Outreach Program up and going in the community:

- Check local community activities on the internet (“Google it”) to see what is happening in your local area.
- Homeless shelters, soup kitchens and food banks/pantries
- Local Police, Fire Departments and EMT Services
- Schools and libraries to help with summer programs; Youth organizations
- Senior Centers; Hospitals and Hospice Centers
- Habitat for Humanity and other community family projects

Don’t forget to have the project pre-approved at an Auxiliary meeting and have it recorded in the minutes. Some partner organizations may conduct ongoing activities so a motion at the beginning of the Auxiliary year will cover the year-long events. On rare occasions (i.e., a natural disaster or emergency community need) the project can be voted upon after the fact. When reporting include the number of members volunteering, the hours involved and the miles driven to assist another organization.

To let it be known that you are a VFW Auxiliary member (& to get Auxiliary Outreach credit), wear an Auxiliary item. This can be a shirt, hat, jacket or a name tag. Be proud to wear these items and smile! Be sure to take pictures when assisting another organization as there is a National Award this year for the best photo collage of community events. Volunteering can be done as an individual or as a group.

This program is about volunteering our time to another organization. It does not include donations of goods and/or money to help the organization.

Department Chairman

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