

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

**South Dakota Department VFW Auxiliary
Auxiliary Outreach
Bulletin October 2024**

National Theme: *From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans*
Department Theme: *United in Service for Veterans*

NOTE: Program Reporting is now available on the Dept. website (www.vfwauxsd.org) under Log-in; then go to Report Entry. Be sure to register your activities throughout the year!

VFW Community Service and VFW Auxiliary Outreach

VFW Auxiliary Outreach is very much like the VFW Community Service. It is hoped that this will help you know what can and cannot be reported under this Program for both VFW and the Auxiliary. Following is an excerpt as to what VFW communicates to Posts.

VFW Community Service is defined by the National Community Service Trust Act as “encompasses any human act serving the common good; in the interest of the community.” Elsewhere, community service is further defined as “a service that is performed for the benefit of the public or its institutions.”

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. subscribes to the above but adds that, for the purposes of volunteer recognition, VFW community service must be performed by and as a representative of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and must be performed for an organization outside the VFW and its Auxiliaries and must be verified by an authorized representative of that organization.

In addition, efforts performed for the benefit of the Post or Auxiliary’s benefit should not be considered as community service.

A particularly controversial area in VFW community service is service to one’s church. Generally, these efforts are not considered community service for two reasons: 1) they are not performed for the community at large; 2) they are part of an individual’s service to their faith and not to the VFW. The exception to this would be performing the same service for all religious organizations in a given community.

Important Auxiliary Additions to VFW Community Service:

1. Wear something that signifies you are a member of the VFW Auxiliary.
2. The project must be voted on during an Auxiliary meeting. (The VFW also requires this in another section of their instructions.)
3. If what you are doing is reportable under another Auxiliary Program, report it under that Program, not under Auxiliary Outreach.

4. Auxiliary work* (e.g., Outreach, Americanism, Veterans & Family Support, etc.) is to be reported to your local VFW Post Adjutant so it can be added to their report. This will help your Post with eligibility for the National Outstanding Community Service Post Award.
5. Auxiliary Outreach volunteer work need not be verified by the organization you are partnering with. (This is a VFW requirement only.)

Auxiliaries are responsible for so many good deeds that help our communities. Collectively, all our projects need to be counted to effectively show the importance of the local VFW and VFW Auxiliary to the community.

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.

Department Chairman
Nancy Worth
PO Box 47
Piedmont, SD 57769
nworth@rushmore.com

Illustrations of Auxiliary Outreach:

Wearing Auxiliary shirt or apron while serving at a soup kitchen



Assisting with roadway or city park cleanup

