



Hello Auxiliary Family,

As I review reports, I am noticing that there is confusion about what the Auxiliary Outreach program is about. I highly encourage everyone to please read the guidelines from our national ambassador prior to submitting a report. The guidelines clearly define what does and does not qualify under the Auxiliary Outreach Program.

Here are a few points I pulled directly from the guidelines, that I would like to highlight:


“The VFW Auxiliary Outreach Program is your Auxiliary’s vehicle to partner with local groups and organizations. This Partnership assists those groups to help them achieve their program goals and objectives. Our communities are hungry for volunteers. Show them we are here to help!


By building partnerships, we strengthen ourselves, those we assist and our communities.

- Auxiliary Outreach is not to be reported under any other Auxiliary Programs.
- Auxiliary Outreach participation by our members is completely under the direction of the sponsoring organization. Remember you are the volunteer!
- Partnerships are to be approved by vote of the Auxiliary and recorded in your minutes.
- Sponsoring, planning, funding or arranging for activities concerning the event are NOT reportable under the Auxiliary Outreach Program”

I think a lot of people are under the impression that the Auxiliary Outreach Program is purely a community service program and that any form of community service qualifies under the program. This is NOT true. The name of the program was changed from “Auxiliary Community Outreach” to “Auxiliary Outreach” to help members better understand the purpose of this program. The Auxiliary Outreach Program is about building partnerships with other organizations/groups in your community to help them achieve their program goals.

Donations alone do NOT count towards the Auxiliary Outreach Program. Therefore, reports solely stating that a donation was made to an organization will be denied as the above guidelines state that “funding” is NOT reportable. There needs to be active volunteering taking place in partnership with another organization.





Additionally, all Auxiliary Outreach events must be approved by the auxiliary membership prior to the event and reflected in the meeting minutes. If it is a repeated or ongoing event (i.e. volunteering once a month at the local animal shelter), it only needs to be approved on the auxiliary floor once and then a report can be submitted for each time this volunteer event occurs with that partnered organization.

Events that are reportable under another one of our programs are NOT to be reported under Auxiliary Outreach. For example, if you partner with an organization that supports veterans, you will report it under the Veterans and Family Support Program.

Some reports I have received are very brief, sometimes only two words in total length, lacking sufficient information for me to make a decision for approval. I am emailing the people who submitted these reports requesting that they re-submit the report with additional information.

When submitting reports please provide the following information at a minimum:

- state that the report was approved by the auxiliary and reflected in the meeting minutes
- name of the organization you are partnering with
- description of volunteer activity

I have heard many stories reflecting the kindness of our members towards humanity. Your kindness is a light in our world that too often feels darkened by brokenness, so thank you for all that you do!

If anyone has any questions, please email me at [auxoutreachca@gmail.com](mailto:auxoutreachca@gmail.com).

Thank you. Happy Holidays!!

Best,

Melissa Kreutz

VFW Auxiliary Outreach Program Department of California Chair

