Extension and Revitalization:

"Charting a Course for Extension and Revitalization:

A New Year's Message from the VFW Auxiliary Chief of Staff"

Dear VFW Auxiliary Members,

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, it is my honor and privilege to extend warm wishes for a year filled with renewed energy, shared successes, and a steadfast commitment to our mission. The coming year holds the promise of growth and revitalization, and as the Chief of Staff, I am excited to share ideas and suggestions for the extension and revitalization of Auxiliaries within the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Reflecting on Our Legacy, Paving the Way Forward

The VFW Auxiliary has a storied history of dedicated service and unwavering support for our veterans, their families, and our communities. As we celebrate our accomplishments, we also recognize the need for continued evolution and expansion to ensure that our organization remains vibrant, impactful, and relevant in the years to come.

Extension: Strengthening Our Reach

- 1. **New Horizons, New Auxiliaries**: In the spirit of growth, let's make a concerted effort to extend our reach by establishing new Auxiliaries. I encourage members to identify opportunities in their localities where the VFW Auxiliary can make a difference and reach out to potential members who share our passion for service.
- **2. Membership Drives**: Let us make 2024 a year of inclusivity and growth. Through targeted membership drives, aim to bring new voices and fresh perspectives into our organization. By extending our membership, we not only strengthen our collective impact but also ensure the continuity of our legacy for generations to come.

Revitalization: Breathing New Life into Auxiliaries

- **1. Energizing Existing Auxiliaries**: Our existing Auxiliaries are the bedrock of our organization. Through targeted revitalization efforts, we should work closely with our auxiliary leaders and members to inject new energy into their activities. This includes organizing engaging events, introducing innovative programs, and providing resources to enhance the overall Auxiliary experience.
- **2. Training and Development:** The heart of a vibrant Auxiliary lies in the dedication and skills of its members. To empower our leaders and members, you should be providing them with comprehensive training and development programs. From effective leadership strategies to efficient event planning, these resources will equip Auxiliaries with the tools they need for success. The VFW Auxiliary National website has a tremendous list of resources free for our use.

How You Can Contribute:

- 1. **Identify Opportunities:** Look for unmet needs or underserved communities in your area where a new Auxiliary could make a significant impact. Your insight can be the catalyst for positive change.
- 2. **Engage in Membership Initiatives:** Actively participate in membership drives and encourage fellow veterans and community members to join our cause. Share the stories of the difference the VFW Auxiliary makes in the lives of those we serve.
- 3. **Collaborate for Revitalization:** Work closely with your local Auxiliary leaders to brainstorm ideas and initiatives that can inject new life into your unit. Together, we can create a dynamic and engaging environment for all members.

As we step into the new year, let us embrace the spirit of extension and revitalization with enthusiasm and determination. By working together, we can ensure that the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary continues to be a beacon of support and service in every community.

Here's to a year of growth, revitalization, and a shared commitment to making a difference. Happy New Year to each and every member of the VFW Auxiliary family!

Sincerely,

Joyce Bilyeu, Chief of Staff Extension and Revitalization Chairman Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary Department of California Jbilyeu42@gmail.com

I HOPE THIS NEW YEAR BRINGS YOU…

Courage to try again

Passion for doing what you love

Ambition to aim higher

Resilience in overcoming obstacles

Humility to learn from others

Kindness for yourself and others

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