

VFW Auxiliary Outreach Program

July 2024 Promotion

Greetings, Department of California Auxiliary,

The Auxiliary Outreach Program has been a difficult program to understand since it became a part of our various national programs. However, it can be a very rewarding program with its various encounters, partnerships and experiences. The Auxiliary Outreach Program, simply put, is a way an auxiliary or an auxiliary member can assist within the local communities, without spending any auxiliary funds and such by sponsoring an event, the auxiliary simply partners with a community organization and aids at the event. With the summer upon us, what a perfect time to get out into our communities. Check your local newspapers, community boards or even church boards for events that your auxiliaries can assist with. Building and fostering positive relationships within our local communities is a sure-fire way of educating the community about the VFW Auxiliary and what we do for veterans, their families, active-duty and the community as well as build community bonds that will last a lifetime.

Community events include assisting at our local food banks, packaging or assisting with the distribution of the food, assisting with feeding our local fire, police or hospital staff, assisting at our community parks with childcare or after school programs, handing out food. The auxiliary in a whole or an individual member can assist the community in so many ways and so many of you already have. So why not give yourself or your auxiliary the opportunity to report about the great work being done assisting in our communities? Please remember to wear clothing with the VFW Auxiliary Logo on it and take pictures to include with your report.

Remember that the event must be voted on by auxiliary members, at an auxiliary meeting, prior to the event, and the approval reflected in the auxiliary minutes. In the event of an emergency, however the assistance at the event can occur and the event voted on retroactively at the next auxiliary meeting and recorded in the minutes.

Auxiliary Outreach can be a very rewarding experience for both the auxiliary and the community. Auxiliaries' Outreaching is a way to continue to share who we are and what we do in every act of kindness we offer as we assist the community. ***"From Our Roots to Our Branches: Extending Service to Our Veterans"*** we will continue ***"Growing in Service for Our Veterans, Rooted in Strength"*** by auxiliaries' outreaching in our local communities.

Respectfully,

Turkessa Lewis

Department of California VFW Auxiliary Outreach Chairperson

2024 - 2025