

AUXILIARY OUTREACH PROGRAM

SEPTEMBER 2024 PROMOTION

Greetings, Department of California Auxiliary,

Thank you for all the reports received thus far. After careful review of the reports being submitted, under the Auxiliary Outreach Program, it has come to my attention that the Auxiliary Outreach Program may still be a difficult or misunderstood program to report on or what is considered a reportable event under the Auxiliary Outreach Program. The concept of the Program is understood by some and auxiliaries are in the community building **partnerships** with other community organizations and other populations by **assisting** with, not hosting, the event. This allows the auxiliaries to bring awareness about the VFW Auxiliary and all the marvelous work our organization does, as a whole, within and outside local communities for veterans, their families, active duty and our communities.

Auxiliary Outreach is a program that allows auxiliary members to extend the hard, dedicated and appreciated work to our local communities to extend our branches to assist and build partnerships within our communities to ensure that no one is left behind. Check your local newspapers, community boards, churches, or police stations for community events that your auxiliary may be interested in assisting with, reach out to the event organizer and let them know that the VFW Auxiliary is willing to **assist** them with their event. Auxiliary Outreach can be a very rewarding experience for both the auxiliary and also for the community organization assisted.

When submitting a report for Auxiliary Outreach credit, please do the following, so that there is a clear understanding and explanation of the event that the auxiliary or auxiliary member **assisted/partnered** with:

AUXILIARY OUTREACH TIPS:

When **assisting an outside organization** with an event, please note that auxiliaries are to **assist** (not host or sponsor) the said event:

- No money may be spent from auxiliary treasury for event
- Event must be voted on by membership prior to assisting with event (unless it is an emergency) and reflected in your auxiliary minutes
- Provide a detailed narrative of the event the auxiliary assisted/partnered with:
 - To include: WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE, WHY and HOW?
 - Include Hours and Number of Members
- Please include pictures of auxiliary members **wearing auxiliary apparel**, while **assisting** with the event, with your reports
 - Pictures taken should be submitted along with your report via email or to the Web Team so they can be put on the Department Website to highlight the Program.
 - Any event that is reportable under any of our programs such as Americanism, Veterans & Family Support or Hospital, etc., is not reportable under Auxiliary Outreach.

Please note: members can **assist** with an organization responding to an emergency event but please remember to ratify your participation as an after-action at your next meeting to reflect the assistance with the emergency event, and be sure the Secretary records the membership's approval in the Minutes..

“From Our Roots to Our Branches: Extending Service to Our Veterans” The VFW Auxiliary Outreach Program will allow our organization to continue ***“Growing in Service for Our Veterans, Rooted in Strength”***

Respectfully,

Turkessa Lewis

Department of California VFW Auxiliary Outreach Chairperson

2024/2025