

AUXILIARY OUTREACH

2023-2024

AUXILIARY OUTREACH IS WHEN A MEMBER OR GROUP OF AUXILIARY MEMBERS VOLUNTEER HOURS WITH ANOTHER ORGANIZATION.

To rephrase JFK's famous line: Ask not what your community can do for you, ask what you can do for your community!



Auxiliary Outreach is time given to help, not monetary or in-kind donations.

Reach out to other non-profits and local groups and offer assistance with their programs. Check with your friends and family or Post members to see if they belong to other organizations that could use

our help. Projects need to be brought up on the Auxiliary floor and voted on by members. It is permissible to work on something that comes up unexpectedly without prior approval, just make sure it is brought up and passed at your next meeting.

Any event that is held at your Post when the proceeds will go to benefit the Post does not count as

Outreach. The same thing applies to working at the American Legion. If the proceeds go to their Post, it is not Outreach, but you can report that under Veterans and Family Support because you are doing something in support of Veterans. Now if you are helping at an event for the Legion and proceeds go to a hospital, or a project for the community park, etc., that would be fine! Remember that if something can be reported under another program like Americanism or Youth Activities, it should not be reported to Outreach.



CHERYL MILLER

311 N. Taylor Street
Red Bud, Illinois 62278
(618) 407-3233
cmilleraux6632@gmail.com

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ **Building Partnerships**
- ✓ **Auxiliary Participating in Outreach**



Another organization can hold an event at your Post and you can help them, as long as they are in charge of the event. This is the perfect example of a blood drive. The Red Cross uses your Post to hold their event, you help them with their setup, checking people in, giving out snacks, etc. BUT MEMBERS DONATING BLOOD DOES NOT COUNT! The Post and Auxiliary alone cannot work together to hold an event for Outreach, you must be under the direction of an outside organization.



Working for our First Responders should be high on our list for volunteering. See if your local police could use help with child ID kits or a bicycle safety class. Does your local firehouse sponsor an open house for children to come in and view the trucks and other equipment? Perhaps you could help them with preparing and handing out goody bags or refreshments.

Working at food banks is an ideal way to volunteer for Outreach. You can help with organizing donations, bagging items up for distribution, or whatever help they need. Delivering Meals on Wheels is another idea. Just remember that it is your hours worked that count. If this is something you do regularly, just keep track of how many members participate and the dates and hours worked and you can report it once before 12/31/23, and then again at the end of the reporting year in April, rather than reporting it every month since it is not a new/different project.

Senior Centers and Nursing Homes will welcome groups to come in and hold some kind of event for the residents or maybe just sit and read to those with limited vision. Does your Auxiliary have members who love to sing? Go and entertain with old-fashioned songs that will bring back memories to the older folks. Don't forget all the holidays when something special can be done. Valentine's Day, Easter, 4th of July, Halloween, etc. The Auxiliary Pinterest page has tons of ideas for décor or crafts.

Does your local library hold book sales? Maybe you could help them get things set up. You could also volunteer to help restock shelves or help customers using the computers. Do they have a book club that some of your members belong to? Perhaps they could be your point of contact with the library to get ideas.

You must wear something that signifies you are a member of the VFW Auxiliary. It can be a shirt, hat, pin, etc. Be prepared to answer questions about the Auxiliary and maybe have a fact sheet or application at hand, but it is not appropriate to recruit members or have a whole table of information at another organization's event.



**"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy.
You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer,
you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in."**



Please compare the lists below emphasizing the difference between what qualifies as an Auxiliary Outreach project and what doesn't.

COUNTS FOR OUTREACH

Working at a blood drive
Serving food at a Cancer Society or Children's Hospital benefit dinner.
Volunteering at an animal shelter or fostering an animal.
Working at a local park cleanup day.
Helping a youth group collect food for the local food pantry.
Working at runs or walks at sign-in, timekeeper, etc.
Working at a local church event that is raising money for disaster victims.

DOES NOT COUNT FOR OUTREACH

Donating blood or platelets.
Serving food at a Post or Auxiliary fundraiser or meal you are hosting for firemen.
Donating money or animal food to a shelter.
Sending a check to the park board for flowers.
Sending a check or buying things to donate to the food pantry.
Participating as an entrant at a charity run or walk.
Working at your church, such as ushering or at a fellowship meal.

!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! IMPORTANT !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

No money can be spent from the Auxiliary Treasury.

No Auxiliary control of the event.

Not reportable under any other VFW or VFW Auxiliary Program.

AUXILIARY OUTREACH

Program Awards

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Auxiliary Awards

1. A citation to each Auxiliary 100% reported in the Auxiliary Outreach Program by December 31, 2023.
2. An award to the Auxiliary Chairman with the best promotion of the Auxiliary Outreach Program in Auxiliary meetings. To qualify, the Auxiliary Chairman must submit a report to the Department Chairman within 30 days of the meeting but no later than April 15, 2024. Monthly reports are strongly encouraged.
3. An award to the Auxiliary with the most outstanding community partnership with another organization. Criteria and entry form (required) available in MALTA Member Resources. Entry must be received by the Department Chairman by March 31, 2024.

District Awards

1. A citation to each District Chairman who submits three (3) or more reports of their presentation on Auxiliary Outreach at their District Meetings to the Department Chairman no later than April 15, 2024. Reporting immediately following District Meetings is strongly encouraged.
2. An award to the District Chairman with the most effective promotion of the Auxiliary Outreach Program in District meetings. To qualify, the District Chairman must submit a report to the Department Chairman within 30 days of the meeting but no later than April 15, 2024. Reporting immediately following District Meetings is strongly encouraged.

NATIONAL AWARDS

Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Most outstanding community partnership with another organization.
 - a. Citation to every Auxiliary that partners with another organization within their community. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member

Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.

- b. Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding community partnership.

Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the Auxiliary account after National Convention.