

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Veterans & Family Support Bulletin - February-March 2025

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Veterans and Family Support-Michigan

National Theme: *From Our Roots to Our Branches Extending Service to Our Veterans*
Department Theme: *Aspire to Inspire*

February 3, Four Chaplains Day

February 14, Valentine's Day

February 19, Coast Guard Reserve Birthday

I don't know about you but this VFW Auxiliary reporting year is going by fast for me. Here is a reminder of your goals that you should complete and report-

- (1) *Promote, participate, host/co-host with your VFW Post activities for any of these programs: Disaster Relief, Military Assistance (MAP), National Veterans Service (NVS), Unmet Needs, Veterans & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness*
- (2) *Fundraise for or donate to any of the 3 Michigan Honor Flight programs*
- (3) *Coordinate an open house event or activity that includes VFW accredited Service Officers to help all vets, military and their families to navigate the VA system to obtain their benefits*
- (4) *Promote veteran and military suicide prevention and mental health awareness*
- (5) *Provide direct aid to military, veterans and/or their families. (cash, diapers, food, cooking, cleaning, laundry, car repair, maintenance, bills, transportation etc.) Report monetary donations and number of veterans, service members, and/or families assisted*
- (6) *Attend and register at a School of Instruction*
- (7) *Attend and register at your own District meeting*
- (8) *Report every quarter (I can tell if you report every quarter, no need to send a report stating that you report every quarter)*

Trouble Reporting?

We are now officially in the 4th and final quarter for reporting what we do for our veterans and families. **April 20, 2025** is the last day that any reports will be accepted and entered for the year into the Department Dashboard. So, if your Auxiliary has not reported yet, you still do have time. **All Auxiliaries are required to report how they have helped veterans and or their families at least once a year.** Please reach out to me as soon as possible if you need assistance; my contact information is: Scott Collins- 127 E. Case St. Negaunee, MI 49866- yes, I do accept handwritten reports email- scott.collins@negauneeschools.org
cell/text- 906 236 2419
home phone- 906 401 0453

March 3, Navy Reserve Birthday
March 13, K-9 Veterans Day
March 17, St. Patrick's Day
March 25, Medal of Honor Day
March 29, Vietnam Veterans Day

National Awards for Auxiliaries

Has your Auxiliary been doing a good job coordinating an activity, event or anything that promotes military and veteran suicide prevention and or mental health awareness? I know the answer is "yes" for many Michigan Auxiliaries by the reports that I have received.

Hopefully, your Auxiliary is planning to enter this year's National VFW Auxiliary Veterans & Family Support Program award contest.

A citation and \$25.00 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding activity or event to increase awareness of suicide and mental health for veterans, military, and their families.

* An entry form must be completed and turned into me by or before March 31, 2025. The form can be obtained on the Malta website. If you're not familiar with Malta, you should login and register. Here is how you do it:

- (1) go to malta.vfwauxiliary.org
- (2) log in or register. Your ID is your Auxiliary membership number, you will make up a password.
- (3) Once in, click on member resources
- (4) click on Veterans & Family Support Award Forms
- (5) Print out and follow directions. You can attach extra information if necessary.
- (6) Mail to me before March 31, 2025. I cannot accept any submissions received after March 31, 2025**

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Please contact me if you need help reporting and thank you to those who have successfully reported or that have contacted me for help and or questions. I do enjoy helping!

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