

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Veterans & Family Support Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Veterans and Family Support - Michigan

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes

Department Theme: Leading With a Patriots Heart

PROGRAM GOALS

- Promote Post Traumatic Stress (PTS) Veteran, Military Suicide & Mental Health Awareness**
- Assist Veterans, Service Members and their Families**
- Promote Resources for Veterans and Military Support Programs**

Veterans and Family Support is exactly why our members join the VFW Auxiliary to do just that. Under the leadership of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, we serve and support veterans, active-duty soldiers and their families of the United States because they have and are putting their lives on the line for our country. Working together as a team we can reach the goals on top of this page and much more. Each month you will receive bulletins with information and suggestions on how to give that support. Included will be the programs & resources already in place and a few new ones.

You are asked to report every month on what your auxiliary is doing to complete the guide points listed in this bulletin. If you need any help with reporting, PLEASE contact me – I am here to support you, so you can support Veterans, Service Members & their Families. You are the key to helping Michigan and President Manke enter the "Circle of Excellence" for our Veterans.

National Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Citation and \$25 to one auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the most outstanding promotion of VFW Resources for veterans, service members and their families.
2. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of 10 Program Divisions for the most outstanding activity and/or event promoting resources, including those for PTS, and assistance for veterans and their families (resources fairs, mental health clinics, etc.)

Entry forms for each Award is required and is available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form for each award to the VFW Auxiliary Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman by March 31, 2027 for judging.

Department Awards

1. Most outstanding promotion using **VFW Resources** for veterans, service members and their families. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
2. Most outstanding Auxiliary that provided **Direct Aid** to veterans, service members and/or families. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
3. Auxiliary with the **most reported number** of veterans, service members and/or their families **assisted** over the year. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
4. Most outstanding promotion/activity of **PTS & Secondary PTS, Mental Health Awareness**

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 – 71-94	#5 – 95-124
#6 – 125-150	#7 – 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Promoted, participated, hosted, or co-hosted with VFW Post activities for any VFW Program (PTS/Secondary PTS & Mental health awareness, Disaster Relief, Military Assistance Programs, National Veterans Service, Unmet Needs) Explain what you did & for who - each time you report		
Provided direct aid to Veterans, Service Members, and/or their families (meals, transportation, cards, packages, donations, etc) What did you do & for who?		
Number of Veterans, Service Members, and/or their Families assisted (name who & # served).		
Promotion of Information about Post Traumatic Stress AND Secondary Post Traumatic Stress and mental health awareness (How)		
Total monetary donations and/or value of donations and goods/services provided to Veterans, Service Members (report what & how much each time)		
Resources Used in Promoting Program (What & How)		
Donations to Department President Special Project (how much)		
Donation to National Joint President/Commander Special Project (how much)		
Purchase Department President’s Pin (how many)		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Americanism Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Americanism - Michigan

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes

Department Theme: Leading With a Patriots Heart

PROGRAM GOALS

**Americanism POP Signs, Flag Education, Promote Patriotism,
POW/MIA Remembrance and Recognition**

National Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that creates the most unique POP sign and/or meme showcasing the VFW Auxiliary.

VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the VFW Auxiliary Department Americanism Chairman by March 31, 2027, for judging.

2. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary Department Americanism Chairman in each of the 10 Program Divisions with the best promotion of POP signs and/or memes showcasing the VFW Auxiliary

The VFW Auxiliary Department Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the VFW Auxiliary National Americanism Ambassador By April 30, 2027, for judging.

Department Awards

1. Best Promotion of a POP sign and or meme showcasing the VFW Auxiliary. \$10 and a Citation of Merit awarded in each membership category. Entry form must be submitted to the Department Chairman by March 31, 2027.
2. Best creation of a Pop sign or meme in each membership category showcasing the VFW Auxiliary. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the VFW Auxiliary. Entry form must be sent to the Department Chairman by March 31, 2027.
3. Best overall promotion and/or event for POW/MIA Recognition. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
4. Best overall award for presentation and distribution of the American Flag and/or POW/MIA Flags. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
5. Best overall Promotion of Americanism through Flag Education, History and Meaning behind National Symbols and traditions, and Military Branch Birthdays. Certificate awarded to each Membership Category.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 – 71-94	#5 – 95-124
#6 – 125-150	#7 – 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Promote/participate in an activity/event for POW/MIA recognition		
Promote, participate and/or recognize any patriotic day and/or branch of service birthdays-which ones		
Distribute or present American and/or POW/MIA Flags – how many of each		
Present Patriotic Appreciation Citations/Certificates of Appreciation or Respect for the Flag Citations to citizens and/or businesses in recognition of their displaying the American and/or POW/MIA Flags and/or other displays of American pride		
Promoted and donated to the National President Project: Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA)		
Promoted and/or submitted a POP sign or Meme showcasing the VFW Auxiliary		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary "Buddy"® Poppy Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Buddy Poppy- Michigan

National Theme: *Serving America's Heroes*

Department Theme: *Leading with a Patriot's Heart*

PROGRAM GOALS

- Buddy®Poppy Distribution
- Buddy®Poppy Education
- Buddy®Poppy Display Contest

National Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event to educate their community about the VFW "Buddy ® Poppy."

Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each program division.

Department Awards

1. Best overall activity and/or event to educate their community about the VFW "Buddy ® Poppy. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
2. \$20, \$15, and \$10 to the Auxiliaries for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in the Mid-Winter "Buddy ® Poppy contest. Youth category: \$10 for the first-place winner and a citation to all the youth who participated.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 - 71-94	#5 - 95-124
#6 - 125-150	#7 - 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Hold a "Buddy" ®Poppy drive with or without your VFW Post. Report getting approval if other than at the Post home.		
Participate in the Mid-Winter "Buddy" ® Poppy display contest		
Report the number of Poppies distributed during a reporting quarter.		
SWAP (Sharing with a purpose) your ideas on Poppy Education and use.		
Activity or event to educate about the "Buddy" ® Poppy-Who, What, Why, When, and Where.		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference, or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at your own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Historian/Media Relations - Guide Sheet 2026-2027

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Historian/Media Relations - Michigan

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes

Department Theme: Leading With a Patriots Heart

This year the National Historian & Media Relations is focusing on preserving our memories in a way that will remain for generations. She said it best this program “keeps the Auxiliary history alive.” Your Auxiliary Historian, along with members, is the storyteller of your Auxiliary. In the past, they compiled photographs, memorabilia, and newspaper articles in scrapbooks and photo albums. As years go by those memories start to fade and deteriorate due to the old photo processing, photo album glue, temperature, and moisture. If not saved those memories will be lost forever. Now with modern technology, we can digitally store not only photos and news articles but, we are able to recreate our photo albums and scrapbooks pages. Last year we learned about reels. This year we will learn about technological advancements that can help us preserve our history and create last memories.

The second part of this program is Media Relations and is equally important as Historian. As Media Relations, you are also assisting in promoting events and projects that your Auxiliary participants in to show what you do and support the military and your community. The Auxiliary has 9 other programs the Historian/Media Relation chairmen along with member can assist in promoting and share information on social media platforms such as Facebook, X, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube channel, or TikTok. Add hashtags and website links to social media posts to boost visibility for the event, project, cause, or VFW Auxiliary program you are promoting. Promote what your Auxiliary and this organization does for our Veterans, service members, their families and our community.

National Awards for Auxiliaries

- 1) Most unique digital record of their VFW Auxiliary history since being established and publishes it to a digital platform for future members of their VFW Auxiliary.
 - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that creates the most unique digital record of their VFW Auxiliary history since being established and publishes it to a digital platform for future members of their VFW Auxiliary

Entry form is required and available in Malta Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman by March 31, 2027, for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary account after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Department Awards

- 1) Most unique digital record of their VFW Auxiliary history since being established and publishes it to a digital platform for future members of their VFW Auxiliary. Must send required National entry form to Department Chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary in each membership category.
- 2) Best overall Historian & Media Relations Chairman training and/or education promoting how preserve the history of their VFW Auxiliary. \$10 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary in each membership category.
- 3) Best Historian & Media Relations program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary in each membership category.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 – 71-94	#5 – 95-124
#6 – 125-150	#7 – 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Create a unique digital record of your auxiliary history since being established and publish it to a digital platform for future members.		
Provide training and/or education promoting how to preserve the history of your VFW Auxiliary		
Provide training and/or education materials to members on how to use social media to promote events or projects.		
Report if Auxiliary has social media accounts with or without Post		
Report if Auxiliary has a website with or without Post		
Communicate to all members by Newsletter, Email, Printed Mail, Text, or Phone Call.		
Interview an Auxiliary member(s) about your Auxiliary’s history and incorporate it in your digital record		
Promoted other Auxiliary program(s) on social media		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Hospital Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Hospital - Michigan

National Theme: Serving America's Hero's
Department Theme: Leading With a Patriots Heart

PROGRAM GOALS

Recruitment of Volunteers - Supporting VA Programs
Women's Veteran Health Care – Honors Escort

Looking at the past, it will help us better the future. This year I would like to emphasize on our VA Medical Centers, Homes for Veterans and the Fisher House. Each month I will highlight one of the facilities. When they opened and what services they provide. Also, throughout the year I will provide a wish list of needs for each. By better understanding each facility will help your Auxiliary know why donations are so important.

We will still be collecting gift cards valued at \$5 to \$25 for Fall Conference, Mid-Winter Conference and Department Convention. See bulletins for more information.

National Awards for Members

1. Citation to one VFW Auxiliary member in each of the 10 Program Divisions who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027. Required entry form is available on MALTA Member Resources. Citations to be mailed directly to winners from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.
2. "Hospital Volunteer Recruiter of the Year" plaque awarded to one VFW Auxiliary member in the nation who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2026, to March 31, 2027. Required entry form is available on MALTA Member Resources. Plaque may be mailed directly to winner from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.
3. Citation to the "Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year" in each of the 10 Program Division. Required entry form is available on MALTA Member Resources. Citations to be mailed directly to winners from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

National Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the most creative/unique activity and/or event to interact with and provide happiness to veterans in hospitals (VA and non-VA facilities).

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the VFW Auxiliary Department Hospital Chairman by April 15, 2027 for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from the VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Department Awards

1. Most creative/unique activity and/or event to interact with and provide happiness to veterans in hospitals (VA and non-VA facilities) Must send required National entry form to the Department Chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary, in each membership category.
2. Plaque presented to Michigan’s Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of Year at the 2027 Department Convention.
3. Best Overall Hospital Program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
4. Best promotion of an Auxiliary sponsoring a youth group volunteering at a VA or non-VA facility. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary, in each membership category.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 – 71-94	#5 – 95-124
#6 – 125-150	#7 – 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Report total number of Auxiliary members who volunteer at any VA or non-VA facility (Auxiliary member to be counted one time per year.)		
Total number of hours that Auxiliary members volunteer at any VA and/or non-VA medical facility (Report through the year every time.)		
Total number of hours that Sponsored Volunteers and/or students volunteered under the VFW Auxiliary sponsorship and supervision at any VA and/or non-VA medical facility.		
Promote, participate, host or co-host any activity with or without your VFW post such as but not limited to National Salute to Veteran Patients, Cards of Veterans, Veteran Health Care (VHA), Women Veterans Health Care Program		
Total dollar amount spent on all Hospital Program related items and/or projects.		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Legislative Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Legislative - Michigan

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes

Department Theme: Leading With a Patriots Heart

PROGRAM GOALS

Be An Advocate • Be Informed • Be Engaged

Welcome to 2026-2027 Legislative Program. We strive to improve the lives of our Veterans, service members, and their families. We advocate for legislation that expands access to healthcare, benefits, and essential services for veterans, ensuring their sacrifices are honored with meaningful support.

Priority Goals

Budget, Health Care, Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, Budget, Health Care Education, Employment and Transition Assistance, Military Readiness, National Security, Foreign Affairs and POW/MIA

VFW releases legislative goals in January each year. Updates can be found on the VFW website (vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service) or on MALTA (www.vfwauxiliary.org) under Member Resources Legislative.

National Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions with the largest increase in new VFW Action Corps Weekly sign-ups from the community and new VFW Auxiliary members.

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2027, for judging. Citations will be mailed directly to winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary account after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention

Department Awards

- Largest increase in new VFW Action Corps Weekly sign-ups from the community and new VFW Auxiliary members. Must send required National entry form to the Department Chairman. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best promotion of promoting the VFW Priority Goals and the VFW Action Corps Weekly. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best promotion for educating members on how to talk to legislative representatives. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 – 71-94	#5 – 95-124
#6 – 125-150	#7 – 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Provide the number of new signups to Action Corps Weekly from the community and new VFW Auxiliary members.		
Educate members and your community on how to talk to legislative representatives. Give details of the event.		
Promote current legislation and encourage community to contact their legislative representatives on behalf of their veterans. Give details on bill number and title, description of bill, and how you promoted.		
Send a thank you to legislative representatives after in person contact.		
Promote, participate in and or host/cohost activities regarding the VFW Priority Goals with or without the VFW Post. Give details about the event.		
Auxiliary members contact their legislators on veteran’s issues by any method. Provide details to include the number of auxiliary members and type of correspondence (examples: emails, letters, phone calls and/or postcards).		
Attend events where you can interact with legislators. Provide details to include the number of auxiliary members and type of event. (examples: town halls, meet and greet, coffee time, legislative conferences.		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Membership Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Membership-Michigan

National Theme: *Serving America's Heroes*

Department Theme: *Leading with a Patriots Heart*

PROGRAM GOALS

Invite New Members – Include Current Members – Invest in the Future of the Organization

"The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team." -
Phil Jackson

Join. Engage. Make a Difference.

The VFW Auxiliary is built on passion, purpose, and people just like you. Our mission is simple: support veterans, service members, their families, and our communities—while building lasting friendships along the way.

It starts with one ask - join us.

Through the power of the "Three Rs"—Recruit, Retain, Rejoin—we grow stronger together. But membership is more than a number. It's about connections. It's about finding your passion and putting it into action.

Whether you love organizing events, creating, teaching, or connecting online—there's a place for you here.

New members bring new energy. New ideas. New impact.

So don't just join—get involved. Be inspired. Be the reason someone else says yes. The future of our organization starts with you.

Throughout the year we will focus on resources that will help you successfully recruit, engage, encourage, include and invest in the future of this organization.

Here are the awards and achievements to help guide you to being rewarded for your hard work this program year!

National Awards for Members

1. **FIVE (5) MEMBER RECRUITER PIN-** Each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits five (5) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary will receive a **5 Member Recruiter Pin**. Pins will be mailed directly to the recruiter.
2. **5 MEMBER RECRUITER DRAWING-** Each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits five (5) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary will be entered into the **5 Member Recruiter Drawing** to receive a \$100 Visa Gift Card.
3. **NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT RECRUITER AWARD-** Each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits twenty (20) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary will

receive a **National Membership Achievement Recruiter Award**. VFW Auxiliary Treasurers on all levels are not eligible for this award.

4. **NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP ACHIEVEMENT RECRUITER DRAWING.** Each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits twenty (20) new and/or rejoined members to the VFW Auxiliary will be entered into the **National Membership Achievement Recruiter Drawing** to receive a \$400 Visa Gift Card. VFW Auxiliary Treasurers on all levels are not eligible for this award.

New and/or rejoined members must be recruited to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2022 through May 31, 2027. The Department Treasurer must enter membership into MALTA with credit given to the recruited by June 10, 2027.

VFW recruiters must complete the VFW Members Only recruiter form and submit it to National Headquarters by June 10, 2027.

Membership Award winners No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 will be announced, and the awards will be presented at the 2027 National Convention. If the award winner is not in attendance, the award will be mailed directly to the winner from National Headquarters after the 2027 National Convention.

National Awards for Auxiliaries

1. \$50 to each Auxiliary that reaches 100% Plus in Membership June 30, 2027*.

National Awards for Departments

1st Down Department Award #1: \$400 to each Department that reaches 95% Plus in paid membership by November 30, 2026*.

2nd Down Department Award #2: \$450 to each Department that reaches 98% Plus in paid membership by February 28, 2027*.

3rd Down Department Award #3: \$500 to each Department that reaches 100% Plus in paid membership by April 30, 2027*.

4th Down Department Award #4: \$600 to each Department that reaches 102% Plus in paid membership by May 31, 2027*.

Departments are eligible to receive all four levels of awards for a combined total of \$1,950 for this Program year. Money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary Department account the following month after each completed goal.

*Based on June 30, 2026, year-end membership numbers.

Department District Awards

1. First District to reach 100% by November 30, 2026 will receive \$100.
2. First District to reach 101% by December 31, 2026 will receive \$100.
3. First District to reach 101% **PLUS** by March 31, 2027 will receive \$100.

Department Auxiliary Awards

1. Every Auxiliary that reaches 100% by September 1, 2026 will be entered into a drawing for \$50. One winner will be drawn at the Fall Conference.
2. If your Auxiliary reaches 100% by December 31, 2026, your Auxiliary will be included in a drawing for another \$50. One winner will be drawn at Mid-Winter.
3. If your Auxiliary reaches 100% by March 31, 2027, your Auxiliary will be included in a drawing for another \$50. One winner will be drawn at Department Convention
4. Each time an Auxiliary converts a member to a life member, they will receive an entry into the "Shift into Life" Drawing. Five Auxiliaries will be drawn at the Department Convention and they will receive \$50 each. Please see the flyer on the Department website for additional rules and details.
5. Any Auxiliary that reaches 102% **PLUS** will be entered into a drawing at the Department Convention for \$100. Three Auxiliaries will be drawn and receive \$100.

Department Member Awards

1. Any member who recruits 10 new and/or rejoined members by December 31, 2026 will be entered into a drawing at Mid-Winter for \$100. One winner will be drawn.
2. Any member who recruits 10 new and/or rejoined members by March 31, 2027 will be entered into a drawing at the Department Convention for \$100. One winner will be drawn.
3. There will also be a drawing at the Department Convention for the top three recruiters from the State. Each top recruiter will be awarded \$100. (No organizers are eligible. Treasurers are eligible for these Department Awards.)

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 – 71-94	#5 – 95-124
#6 – 125-150	#7 – 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Held a membership drive, event, or advertised more than once in a media outlet of your choice (social media, newspaper, etc.)		
Achieve 100% in membership by November 30, 2026		
Achieve 101% in membership by January 31, 2027		
Participate in "Adopt-A-Member" (dues angels) initiative.		
Send out dues notices by August 1, 2026		
Send out 2nd dues notice by November 30, 2026		
Convert Annual to Life- "Shift in to Life" Drawing		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Scholarships Guide Sheet 2026-2027

www.vfwauxmi.org

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes
Department Theme: Leading With a Patriots Heart

PROGRAM GOALS

Student Participation - Recipient Recognition - Community Awareness - Increasing the Fund

The Scholarship Program encourages patriotism, assists students in attaining an education and helps students reach their full potential. This increases VFW and Auxiliary recognition while supporting our communities, students and members. The following is a list of the Scholarships available for the 2026-2027 year:

- ❖ 2026-2027 VFW Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest – Theme: "What A Veteran Taught Me about America?"
- ❖ 2026-2027 VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest – Theme: "What A Veteran Taught Me about America?"
- ❖ Continuing Education Scholarship
- ❖ Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest
- ❖ 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest

National Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that hosts the most outstanding "Red Carpet" event / celebration honoring VFW and VFW Auxiliary Scholarship participants.

Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources.

VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Scholarships Chairman by March 31, 2027, for judging.

The Department Scholarships Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National Scholarships Ambassador by April 30, 2027, for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the VFW Auxiliary account after the 2027 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

Department Awards

- Best overall promote/participate assisting the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Contest. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall promote/participate assisting the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Patriot’s Pen Essay Contest. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall promote/participate of the Continuing Education Scholarship. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall promote/participate of the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall promote/participate of the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best overall award ceremony to recognize awardees and participants in any/all contests. \$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 – 71-94	#5 – 95-124	
#6 – 125-150	#7 – 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER	
Achievements				Completed	Reported
Promote/participate an assist the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Contest					
Promote/participate an assist the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Patriot’s Pen Essay Contest					
Promote/participate in the Continuing Education Scholarship Contest					
Promote/participate in the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest					
How many Young American Creative Patriotic Art submitted for judging-Auxiliary Level					
Promote/participate in the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest					
How many 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest submitted for judging-Auxiliary Level					
Host/co-host with the VFW an award ceremony to recognize awardees and participants in any/all contests					
Donation made through National for the National Continuing Education Scholarship Contest					
Donation made through National Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest					
Attend and register at any training					
Attend and register at own District Meeting					
Report every quarter					
Nicole Koutz 410 N Clinton St. Louis, MI 48880 989-620-6425 turtlelee@hotmail.com					





Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary

VFW National Home Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: VFW National Home - Michigan

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes
Department Theme: Leading with a Patriot's Heart

PROGRAM GOALS

- Promoting the VFW National Home
- Promoting the National Home Helpline
- Supporting the VFW National Home

National Awards for Auxiliaries

Most creative activity and/or event that demonstrates what the National Home is, where it is located, and who is eligible for the services provided by the VFW National Home. Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions.

Department Awards

Most creative activity and/or event that demonstrates what and where the VFW National Home is, and who is eligible for the services provided by the VFW National Home. Citation of Merit and \$10 to the Auxiliary.

Best overall promotion of the VFW National Home Helpline. Citation of Merit and \$10 to the Auxiliary.

Best promotion of the VFW National Home in each membership category. Citation of Merit and \$10 to the Auxiliary.

Crown Award

VFW National Home "Nickels for the Nursery"

District vs. District competition to raise the most funds for the nursery.

At the Fall Conference, a Crown will be given to the District that has donated the most to date. It will be done at Mid-Winter and Convention.

Trophy

Special Collection Award to the Auxiliary who raises the most change for the VFW National Home.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 – 71-94	#5 – 95-124
#6 – 125-150	#7 – 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Promote what and where the VFW National Home is in your community. Tell Our Story!		
Promote the VFW National Home Helpline		
Attend Michigan Day		
Purchase at least one Life Membership to the VFW National Home in the current Program Year,		
Give a monetary Gift, or purchase a Brick, or purchase an item from the Amazon Gift list, or Purchase and wear apparel to promote the home, or distribute promotional material.		
Donate to “Nickels for the Nursery”		
Donate change for VFW National Home Special Collection		
National Home Health & Happiness paid in full by March 31, 2027		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference, or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at your own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

Jane Dady
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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities & Camp Trotter Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Youth Activities/Camp Trotter - Michigan

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes

Department Theme: Leading With a Patriots Heart

PROGRAM GOALS

Sponsoring and Working with Youth Groups - Patriotism through Literacy - Illustrating America

Youth Activities:

This year we will again participate in Illustrating America, Patriotism through Literacy and Sponsoring/working with youth groups.

Illustrating America:

The Illustrating America due dates (see first bulletin) have moved up significantly so you will want to begin working on this project early! Information about this will be posted on the Department website in the youth program as soon as it is received. Please do not print the information until you have been notified it is the most up-to-date (Facebook/Bulletin/Email).

Patriotism Through Literacy:

In addition, our National Award focuses not just on participating in Patriotism through Literacy but hosting a lending library! The more creative you get with this, the more fun it will be. Please be sure you can maintain this library in your community before you decide to start one! Maybe you can work with a youth group to host this library and keep it up!

Citations/RAP Cards:

You'll also want to focus on handing out "Youth Group Supporting Our Veterans" Citations and Random Acts of Patriotism cards. We all like to be acknowledged and as a child, it's always great when it is by an adult! Any time you bring a youth group in to help with a project/program you can provide these citations/RAP cards!

Camp Trotter:

This year we will not be hosting a Camp Trotter table. We ask that instead of spending money on items to raffle off, you gather what you would have spent and donate to the scholarship fund. Camp will cost \$475 per person this year and that does not cover the weekly cost of a camper. Helping to offset this cost will be more beneficial to the camp.

National Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Citation of Merit and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 program divisions for the most creative and/or unique VFW Auxiliary Lending Library.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2027 for judging.

Department Awards

1. Citation of Merit and \$10 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 program divisions for the most creative and/or unique VFW Auxiliary Lending Library.
2. Best overall working with and/or sponsoring youth groups. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
3. Best overall promotion/participation in Illustrating America art contest. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
4. Best overall promotion/participation in Camp Trotter program. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-54	#3 -55-70	#4 – 71-94	#5 – 95-124
#6 – 125-150	#7 – 151-195	#8 -196-226	#9 -227-299	#10 -300-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Number of youth groups you worked with this program year		
Number of youth your auxiliary worked with this program year		
Number of "Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans" Citations Awarded		
Created an Auxiliary sponsored lending library		
Number of books donated in participation of Patriotism through Literacy		
Promoted Illustrating America Art Contest		
Number of Students who submitted art entries for Illustrating America		
Number of entries submitted to Department for judging		
Hosted an award ceremony for Illustrating America winners and participants		
Total amount/value of awards for Illustrating America		
Made a scholarship donation to Camp Trotter (including amount)		
Purchased a life membership to Camp Trotter		
Attend and register at a School of Instruction – District Meeting, Fall Conference or Mid-Winter Conference		
Attend and register at own District Meeting		
Report every quarter		

April Lowery
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 asmith0725@gmail.com

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Extension & Revitalization/Chief of Staff- Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Extension & Revitalization- Michigan

National Theme: *Serving America's Heroes*
Department Theme: *Leading With a Patriots Heart*

PROGRAM GOALS

- 5 Essentials of a VFW Auxiliary
- Maintain and Strengthen Current Auxiliaries
- Establish and Recognize New Auxiliaries
- Mentoring and Encouraging all Members

What does the Chief of Staff/Extension and Revitalization Chairman do?

The Extension and Revitalization Chairman, also known as the Department Chief of Staff, works closely with the Department President to mentor and guide Department leadership. In my capacity as Chief of Staff/Extension Chairman, I am committed to supporting the maintenance of a robust Auxiliary and assisting in the development of new Auxiliaries within Unaffiliated posts. By fostering teamwork and ensuring respectful interactions among members, we can address situations effectively and uphold the integrity of the organization.

Know the 5 Essentials of a VFW Auxiliary.

1. Auxiliaries should have at least ten (10) business meetings per year. (Sec. 210).
2. Dues should be paid on at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year. (Sec. 207)
3. Up to date with submission of quarterly audits by Trustees. (Sec. 814)
4. Officers elected, installed and reported to National Headquarters no later than June 30.
5. The offices of President and Treasurer MUST be bonded by August 31.

How can you help to Establish New VFW Auxiliaries? A simple way to make a difference is by reaching out to VFW Posts that don't have a VFW Auxiliary and encouraging them to establish one. You can share resources like the "Why Having an Auxiliary Can Boost Your Post" PowerPoint or PDF, as well as the "Ten Top Reasons for Your Post to have an Auxiliary" information sheet available on the Department or National website. If you're arranging to speak with an unaffiliated post about starting an Auxiliary, let me know and I'll do my best to support you in person.

Recognize new VFW Auxiliaries

Welcome and acknowledge new VFW Auxiliaries during District and Department events to ensure they feel valued and included.

Mentoring and Encouraging Members

Mentoring expands leadership abilities, while leadership offers direction to those being mentored—these elements complement each other. By engaging in mentoring, our organization can build a more robust membership at every level. Welcoming new members with mentorship is an act of friendship and support.

National Awards for Members

1. Citation and a \$25 VFW Store gift certificate to one member in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best assistance to the Chief of Staff in establishing a new VFW Auxiliary with the approval of the Department President.

Entry form is required and is available in MALTA Member Resources. It is due to your Extension and Revitalization Department chairman by March 31, 2027.

Awards for District Presidents or Official Representatives

1. Citation and a \$25 VFW Store gift certificate to one District President or Official Representative in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the best assistance to the Chief of Staff with a struggling VFW Auxiliary by mentoring and maintaining a close relationship until the VFW Auxiliary becomes healthy, with the approval of the Department President. Use of MALTA Healthy Auxiliary tools and mentor training is required.

Entry form is required and is available in MALTA Member Resources. It is due to your Extension and Revitalization Department chairman by March 31, 2027.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- A special gift to the organizer of a NEW AUXILIARY instituted between July 1, 2026, and April 1, 2027.
- A special gift to the Department winner of the Award for District Presidents or Official Representatives.
- \$25 to each NEW AUXILIARY instituted between July 1, 2026, and April 1, 2027.
- A plaque to any Post that institutes a NEW AUXILIARY between July 1, 2026, and April 1, 2027.

Della Steege
Chief of Staff/Extension Chairman
214 N. Dewey St.
Owosso, MI 48867
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district9della@yahoo.com





Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary District Achievement Guide Sheet 2026-27

www.vfwauxmi.org

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes
Department Theme: Leading With a Patriots Heart

This form MUST be turned in by May 1, 2027

Write a year-end report explaining what your District did throughout the year.

Department Awards

- The District with the highest points will receive a certificate of Achievement, a \$200 check to the District, and a special gift to the District President.
- The District with the 2nd highest points will receive a certificate of Achievement, \$125 to the District and a special gift to the District President.
- The District with the 3rd highest points will receive a certificate of Achievement, \$75 to the District, and a special gift to the District President.
- Districts (not including the above 3) that score 250 points will receive \$50 to the District and a small gift to the District President.
- Districts that score between 200-250 points will receive \$25 to the District and a small gift to the District President.
- Any District that scores under 200 points will receive \$10 to the District and a small gift to the District President.

National Bylaws/Administrative

(Each worth 10 points)

1. The District Report of Installation MUST be received at National Headquarters by **6/20/26**.
2. Reports of Installation from all your Auxiliaries must be received at National Headquarters by **6/20/2026**, with a copy to the Department Secretary, or a request for a suspension by the Department President will be submitted to National.
3. District and all Auxiliaries must be bonded by **8/15/26**.
4. District 990 and all Auxiliaries 990's must be filed by **11/1/26**. A copy must be sent to the Department Treasurer or has an extension on file.
5. District and Auxiliary officers' dues must be paid by 12/15/26.
6. All Auxiliary official visits must be completed by 12/31/26 unless approved by the Department President.
7. All Official Visit forms must be turned in within 15 days of the visit of the Auxiliary.

Total Points

Leadership

(Each worth 25 points)

1. Every Auxiliary in your District must report in a program at least once from June, 1 2026 to April 20, 2027.
2. District must communicate with every Auxiliary at least quarterly in one or more ways- email, mail, phone, website, social media or newsletter.
3. Submit a minimum of two articles to the MOV newspaper.

Total Points

Additional Administrative

(Each worth 10 points)

1. Must attend all C of A meetings.
2. District President must engage every Auxiliary in doing the work of the organization.
3. District President shall ensure that all Auxiliaries donate or complete at least one project or activity that benefits veterans by 4/20/27.

Total Points

Training:

(Each worth 25 points)

1. District President or his/her representative is present at one of the Department's "Road Show" trainings.
2. Host a training outside of a regular District meeting or Planning meeting.

Total Points

Membership Goals and Growth

Membership numbers for standings are used from July 5, 2026 to April 25, 2027. Memberships will be based on figures listed in the CRM-Paid, Cancelled & Deceased reports in MALTA. **You only receive one of the four levels below-maximum points that you can achieve: 125.**

1. Over 101% in Membership-not including deaths. 125pts
2. 100% Plus in Membership, not including deaths. 100pts
3. 100% Plus in membership including deaths (paid percentage). 75pts
4. 97-100% in Membership, including deaths (paid percent). 50pts

Total points from above

Bonus points are used only if there is a tie for the 3 highest point ranges:

(Each worth 25 points)

1. A District Officer is to contact any Auxiliary below 100% in Membership January 31, 2027 to on/or before April 15, 2027 (explain in your year end-report how you achieved this. This is separate from the communication from #8 above. 25 points.
2. Explain how you helped Auxiliaries that were struggling in your District.

Total bonus points

Total points including bonus

Sandi Messenger- District Achievement
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**Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary
Auxiliary Achievement 2026-27**

www.vfwauxmi.org

***National Theme: Servings America's Heroes
Department Theme: Leading With a Patriots Heart***

**COMPLETED ENTRY MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MAY 1, 2027
PRESENTATIONS WILL BE MADE AT THE 2027 DEPARTMENT CONVENTION**

You MUST meet the following criteria:

- 1. Auxiliary MUST be represented at each of your own District Meetings.**
- 2. Membership MUST be 95% by November 30, 2026.**
- 3. All monies owed to the Department MUST be paid in full by March 31, 2027**
- 4. All audits MUST be received by the Department Treasurer ON TIME.**
- 5. Your Auxiliary MUST report at least one (1) time between May 1, 2026 and April 20, 2027 in each chairmanship.**
- 6. Report of Auxiliary Installation MUST be received by the Department by June 30, 2026. If able, enter into MALTA before sending to Department.**
- 7. The IRS 990 Auxiliary report MUST be completed by November 15, 2026 and a copy mailed to Department Treasurer. (Unless your Auxiliary does a long form, then notify the Department.)**
- 8. This guide sheet MUST BE COMPLETED, along with a brief description of your Auxiliary's accomplishments, and MUST be postmarked or emailed to me by May 1, 2027.**

Top 25 winning Auxiliaries will get a \$25.00 check, a Citation of Merit and a Special Gift to the President. Any Auxiliary that submitted this Guide Sheet and did not achieve the Circle of Excellence will receive a Citation and a small gift.

**Judy Henson - Auxiliary Achievement Chairman
1100 S. Dalrymple St.
Albion, MI 49224
517-250-3457
winniejudy@gmail.com**

AUXILIARY ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Auxiliary # _____

District # _____

Auxiliary President's Name

With Full Address:

Program Accomplishments

Section One: President	Points Available	Points Earned
Within 30 days of taking office, the President provided financial information and a membership report to the Post Commander, as required by Section 810 of National Bylaws	5	
Report of Installation entered online and/or sent to Department Secretary by June 30, 2026. A copy sent to Department and District.	10	
President held a Planning Meeting	5	
Offices of President and Treasurer bonded for double the Auxiliary funds by August 31, 2026	5	
President presided over 10 business meetings.	10	
President registered and attended ALL their own District meetings.	15	
President, Sr. Vice or Jr. Vice registered, signed in, and attend the School of Instruction at Fall Conference, or one given by Department Officers.	5 per person	
President or Line Officer registered, signed in, and attended the Mid-Winter Conference (January 2027)	10	
All Audits sent to Department Treasurer on time	10	

Total points: 85

Earned this section _____

Section Two Membership	Points Available	Points Earned
Formed a membership committee of at least 5 members	5	
Sent out 1 st Dues Notice by August 31, 2026	10	
Sent out 2 nd Dues Notice or contacted unpaid members by November 30, 2026 (Not applicable if already 100%)	5	
Achieved 100% plus 1 by December 31, 2026	20	
Achieved 100% plus 1 by April 30, 2027	10	
Held a membership drive, event, or advertised more than once in a media outlet of your choice (social media, newspaper, etc.)	5	

Total points: 55

Earned in this section _____

Section Three: Auxiliary	Points Available	Points Earned
All Auxiliary officer's dues MUST be paid by December 15, 2026	10	
Auxiliary actively participated and reported in all Department Programs	10	
Auxiliary members other than the President registered/attended all their own District Meetings	5	
At least 1 member other than an officer attended a Department training	5	
At least 1 member other than an officer registered at the Fall or Mid-Winter Conference	5	
Auxiliary signed up a least 1 new/rejoined member. Must have a member ID on the application	5	
Auxiliary completed at least one project, activity or donation that benefits veterans by April 20, 2027	10	

Total points: 50

Earned this section: _____

Section Four: Auxiliary Donations	Points Available	Points Earned
Donation to ALL Department Suggested Donations	10	
National Home Health & Happiness paid to National VFW Auxiliary by December 31, 2026	5	
Auxiliary Program Pin monies paid by March 1, 2027	5	
Donation to National President's Special Project –	5	
Donation to the Department President's Special Project –	5	

Total Points: 30

Earned this section: _____

You MUST include a brief description of your activities. This is where you can brag about your Auxiliary.

If you complete it, you will get 25 points.

Section Five: Reporting	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	<p>In this table, place a check mark if you reported in the chairmanship in that quarter. This will be used as a tie breaker.</p> <p>One point per check mark (40 Possible)</p> <p>Total Extra Points: _____</p>
Americanism					
Buddy Poppy					
Historian/Medie Relations					
Hospital					
Legislative					
Membership					
National Home					
Scholarships					
Veterans & Family Support					
Youth Activities					

SEND TO:

**Judy Henson
 Auxiliary Achievement Chairman
 1100 S. Dalrymple St.
 Albion, MI 49224
 517-250-3457 winniejudy@gmail.com**

Total Points overall
