

**Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary
Extension & Revitalization/Chief of Staff
BULLETIN**

August 2026

www.vfwauxmi.org

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

National Theme: Serving America's Heroes

Department Theme: Leading with a Patriot's Heart

Do you understand what the signs mean?

A **Red flag** is an auxiliary that could be placed on suspension to give them time to work with a suspension team, with hopes that they return to a healthy auxiliary.

A **Yellow flag** is an auxiliary that is struggling in one or two areas and improves quickly with minimal assistance.

A **Green flag** is a positive and healthy auxiliary, meeting all required goals of the organization.

KNOW THE SIGNS



What is a PIP? Simply put, a PIP is a Performance Improvement Plan. It helps an Auxiliary take ownership of problems by identifying needed actions, responsible people, and timelines. With goals and a plan in place, the Auxiliary can resolve issues in a way that benefits its members, the organization, and the Auxiliary as a whole. The Department President may appoint a person or team to assist, but the Auxiliary creates its own plan to become healthy again.

How can a PIP benefit the Auxiliary? A Performance Improvement Plan helps reduce the impact of suspension by guiding the Auxiliary through issues, conflicts, or concerns while continuing its important work. Monitored at the Department level, the plan allows timelines to be adjusted as needed, tracks progress and gives members a voice in deciding how to return the Auxiliary to a healthier place. With support from a mentor or mediator, a PIP helps the Auxiliary pause, identify the problem, and create a practical plan to move forward and better serve our veterans.

R U Healthy Checklist reminders for August:

- April/May/June audit reports to Department by August 31, 2026, after they have been read and approved on your auxiliary floor before submitting them.
- Duties of the Trustees on every level to see that the offices of the President and Treasurer are bonded by August 31, 2026. The amount of the bond shall be approved by the Auxiliary and written in the minutes.
- Use MALTA to prepare and send your dues notices to annual members.

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Presidents: Official visits have begun. You may have already hosted your District President's visit, while others are scheduled soon. If your Auxiliary needs mentoring or assistance with anything, please contact me or the Department Office.

Our focus remains on ensuring every Michigan Auxiliary has the guidance and resources needed to stay healthy and successful.

Tools: District and Auxiliary Presidents are encouraged to read and use the *Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation* booklet. This helpful resource offers guidance for conducting effective meetings, creating agendas, preparing accurate minutes, and understanding officer duties. Used together with our By-Laws and Ritual, it supports proper procedures and strengthens leadership within our Auxiliaries. Strong, knowledgeable leadership is key to retaining and engaging members.

Another great tool available is the *Online Academy* on MALTA.

www.vfwauxiliary.org



-About Us tab

-Online Academy

There you will find videos and PDF files on Membership, Treasurer, social media and how to engage existing members.

Yellow Flag signs:

1. Audits are not done on time.
2. No representation on District -Level at meetings
3. No change in Officers
4. No new members
5. No Program reports

R U Healthy Checklist reminders for September:

- District dues, based on June 30, 2026, membership, paid to District by September 30, 2026.
- If you didn't send out due notices in July or August, do them now.
- Report in all programs
- Begin preparing for the July, August, September Audit.

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