



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Auxiliary Community Outreach Bulletin September-October 2021 www.vfwauxmi.org

National Theme: Soaring Above & Beyond
Department Theme: Tell Our Story of Service

You have done a great job getting out and supporting your communities!! Remember, Auxiliary Community Outreach is when **an Auxiliary member, group of members or an entire Auxiliary volunteers for an Organization outside of our own.** The key word here is organization. It must be in partnership or to the benefit of another organization. Look in your local newspaper, call organizations in your communities or look under Facebook events to see where you can volunteer. Remember, it is about donating your TIME! National will be bringing out more guidelines for this program this month, so keep an eye on our Facebook page for updates!



One of the goals on our Guide Sheet this year is to **plan or participate in projects or programs to support or recognize first responders.** There are a lot of opportunities this month, as well as next, to plan something if you have not already. The 20th Anniversary of 9-11 is this month, the first week of October is Fire Prevention week, and the 28th of October is National First Responders Day to name a few. Reach out to your local schools, police and fire departments, hospitals and see in what ways you can collaborate on an event in

your community or in your local schools. Remember, this is Community Outreach, meaning that you can host an event, but it must not be hosted at your Post home but rather somewhere out in your community. Remember to take pictures so you can add it to your Collage featuring your Auxiliary members volunteering with first responders (which is also a goal on your Guide Sheet).

How to report your volunteer time.

When reporting your time, you will multiply the hours worked by the number of volunteers. So,
5 members x 2 hours = 10 reportable hours.

Hope to see many of you at Fall Conference!

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October 2021

Are you stuck and need some ideas on ways you can participate in Auxiliary Community Outreach?

- Help Youth
 - Tutor Students through an organization
 - Volunteer with after-school programs
 - Volunteer with youth performing arts programs, booster clubs, youth groups, Big Brother Big Sister or seek out your local youth organization, etc.
- Help Senior Citizens
 - Read to residents at a nursing home
 - Deliver groceries for Meals on Wheels or other senior food programs
 - Drive senior citizens to doctor appointments through local senior support organizations
 - Volunteer at a senior center

"The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others."



- DeAnn Hollis



One thing to remember is all these volunteer opportunities **MUST BE in done through an organization! **

Show your Pride: Please be sure to wear your Auxiliary-branded attire when participating in your Auxiliary Community Outreach. This is the time to show your pride and perhaps strike up a conversation about who you are and what our organization does. This program is an excellent opportunity to market and grow our organization.

Reporting: Auxiliaries, you must vote to accept volunteer hours for this program before you can report your volunteer time. If you have not voted, please do so at your next meeting. Then, report that you voted! It doesn't take much time to submit a report. Perhaps set a day aside that you do your reporting to help you remember. The best time would be following a meeting, so it is fresh in your mind. Did you read this bulletin at your meeting? Then report it. You have until the end of this month to get your second quarter reporting done.

Please don't hesitate to call or email me if you have any questions or need help with reporting.

Don't forget to "Like" and share your photos on the Department of Auxiliary Programs page.

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