

Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP BULLETIN August 2022

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UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

National Theme: Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care

Department Theme: Be the Anchor for Our Veterans, Hold Them Steady and Safe

“WE MAKE A LIVING BY WHAT WE GET, WE MAKE A LIFE BY WHAT WE GIVE”

.....Winston Churchill

Mentoring is not limited to one style, format, or place. Relationships are established through mentoring. Mentoring relationships occur informally amongst organization members reaching out to offer a helping hand to new and tenured members who may have been inactive for a while. Sometimes mentoring supports diversity, growth, and inclusion efforts. And most importantly, mentoring exposes members to caring, involved role models.

Mentoring allows members to learn from one another, for instance, an established member can share knowledge and guidance to someone with less experience. Mentoring at its core is the opportunity for members to learn from one another. It enables the sharing of knowledge between two or more members for the benefit of the entire organization.

There is wide range of things a mentor can offer a mentee. Mentors can listen, share advise, ask thought-provoking questions, and more. Mentors can listen to their mentee’s concerns and work on solutions regarding these concerns, and mentors can share feedback to the organization regarding concerns voiced by mentees. Mentors can directly offer recommendations such as priorities and goals and identify resources available to mentees.

A mentor should introduce the mentee to members who can recommend events, projects and assignments that will help the mentee make connections with others in his/her organization. Over time the mentee may express interest in going beyond just attending meetings. They may even realize they have gained confidence to take the next step in entering a leadership role. This may consist of holding an officer position, chairmanship, or becoming a committee member.

Leadership can be difficult in any organization. Through mentoring, willingness to listen to the suggestions of others and following the guidelines set in place for the office or position held, leadership is made easier.

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