



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Americanism/Patriotic Instructor Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Americanism-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans
Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

Congratulations on being selected as the Americanism Chairman/Patriotic Instructor. My name is Roberta and I'm very excited to be your Americanism Chairman for 2023-2024. I'm sure we're ready to show our Patriotism in America. We need to assist with parades, programs, and events in our community, state, and nation.

Another way to promote patriotism is by celebrating the Patriotic Holidays. Throughout the year, I will remind you when they are and what you can do to celebrate them. We should also honor our Gold, Silver, Blue, and White Star families not only on the designated days, but throughout the year.

We need to fly our American flag and POW/MIA flag to show our Patriotism by teaching the children to respect of the flag.

National Award for Members/Auxiliaries

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are "more than Letters."
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are "more than letters." Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries Must send the entry form to their Department Americanism Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging. The Department Americanism Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community that our VFW Auxiliary acronyms are "more than letters."
 - The Department Americanism Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department -winning entry form to the National Americanism Ambassador by April 30, 2024, for judging.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

Department Awards

- Best promotion of Patriotic Holidays through observance, ceremony, and/or tribute in each membership category \$10.00 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary.
- Best overall program on the education of Americanism/Patriotism in the community/schools \$10.00 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary.
- Best overall usage of #MoreThanLetters to members and community. \$10.00 and Citation of Merit to Auxiliary.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER
Achievements			Completed	Reported
Utilized any of the Americanism material/resources available in MALTA Member Resources.				
Promoted, participated, recognized, any patriotic day and /or branch of service birthdays.				
Did your Auxiliary distribute and/or present American Flags, or POW/MIA flags.				
How many American Flags were Distributed and or presented.				
How many POW/MIA Flags were Distributed and or presented				
Report number of Patriotic Appreciation Citations, Certificate of Appreciation or Respect for the Flag Citations presented to citizens and/or businesses in recognition of their displaying the American Flag, POW/MIA flag and/or other displays of American Pride				

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Auxiliary Outreach Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Auxiliary Outreach-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

Auxiliary Outreach is members of the Auxiliary going out into the community and working with and assisting other organizations. This can be achieved on an individual basis or a group setting. Working with other organizations benefits both them and the Auxiliary. This allows Auxiliary members to reach outside the walls of their local Post and extend their knowledge and skills while supporting The Angels Among Us.

Many different items are considered part of Auxiliary Outreach; finding creativity and networking with community members to help locate organizations that may be in need. When working with any organizations for Auxiliary Outreach be sure that the members(s)

volunteering is wearing a VFW Auxiliary item. Does not matter if it's a shirt, hat, jacket, nametag, pin, or a tote bag on your shoulder. You can even wear them all! Be proud of your Auxiliary and show your pride by wearing your Auxiliary items daily! You never know who you are going to run into.



When volunteering it will be helpful to have some applications and pamphlets about the VFW Auxiliary on hand. However, we must remember that we are there volunteering for these organizations and that we are not doing a membership drive.

Below are some examples of organizations that your Auxiliary can work with.

- Local Police, Fire and EMT
- Parks and recreation
- Soup Kitchens & Food Pantries
- Local library
- Youth Groups, Cub, Boy and Girl Scouts
- City elections
- Senior Centers

Remember that VFW Auxiliary members are worker bees, the project/events are not a VFW or VFW Auxiliary event.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding community partnership with another organization

- Citation to every Auxiliary that partners with another organization within their community. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.
- The Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30th, 2024, at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.
- Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
- Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding community partnership.
- The Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department -winning entry form to the National Auxiliary Outreach Ambassador by April 30, 2024, for judging.
- Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- Most overall activity is completed with another community organization.
Citation of Merit and \$10 to the Auxiliary
- Best overall usage of Auxiliary Outreach materials available on MALTA
Citation of Merit and \$10 to one Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Auxiliary utilized the Auxiliary Outreach material/resources available in MALTA Member Resources.		
Did your Auxiliary as a group, volunteer or partner with another organization not affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary.		
How many different Organizations did your Auxiliary volunteer or partnered with during the year? First Responders-Churches-Churches-Towns-Disaster Relief-Cancer, Heart, ALS, Associations, etc.-Other		
Number of combined member and/or Auxiliary hours volunteered with another organization not affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary “Buddy”[®] Poppy/National Home for Children Guide Sheet 2023-24

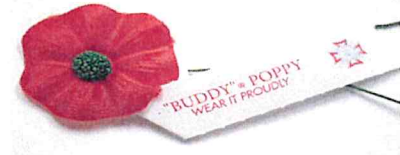
www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: “Buddy”[®] Poppy/VFW National Home-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

“Buddy”[®] Poppy Program - The “Buddy”[®] Poppy is a small and mighty flower that has remained the VFW’s official memorial flower since 1922. The Poppy represents the blood shed by American service members and provides us with the reminder of their sacrifices. The Poppy program provides compensation to veterans who assemble them, financial assistance to veterans’ rehabilitation and service programs, and partially supports the VFW National Home.



V F W
N A T I O N A L H O M E

VFW National Home – Founded in 1925 as a place where families left behind by war –mothers and children, brothers, and sisters – could remain together, keeping the family circle intact even when their serviceman didn’t come home. The VFW National Home serves as a living memorial to America’s veterans by helping our nation’s military and veteran families during difficult times. For more than 95 years, the VFW National Home has helped military and veteran families who need a fresh start in a safe and peaceful environment.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding use of the “Buddy”[®] Poppy in another VFW Auxiliary National Program
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that uses the “Buddy”[®] Poppy in another VFW Auxiliary National Program. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.
 - The Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy ^ VFW National Home Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted and entry form.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding use of the “Buddy”[®] Poppy in another VFW Auxiliary National Program.
 - The Department “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National “Buddy”[®] Poppy & VFW National Home Ambassador by April 30, 2024, for judging.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

2. Most Outstanding activity and/or event that educated their community and/or other Veteran Service Organizations about the VFW National Home
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community or another Veteran Service Organization about the VFW National Home. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.
 - The Department “Buddy”® Poppy & VFW National Home Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combine list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters
 - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences with the most outstanding activity and/or event that educates their community and/or another Veteran Service Organization about the VFW National Home.
3. Citation to each Auxiliary that contributes a gift of 25 cents or more per member to the Health & Happiness Fund based on June 30th, 2023, membership statistics.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- Best Overall promotion of Michigan Day at the VFW National Home. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Best Overall promotion of the “Buddy”® Poppy and VFW National Home. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- \$20, \$15, and \$10 to the Auxiliaries for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in the Mid-Winter “Buddy”® Poppy display contest. Youth Category: Plaque for 1st place winner and Citation to all youth who participated.
- Best Overall promotion of Benefits and Resources. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- Most Outstanding Activity and/or event that educates own community/or other Veterans Service Organization about the VFW National Home. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98	
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER	
Achievements				Completed	Reported
Did your Auxiliary utilize the "Buddy"® Poppy materials/resources in MALTA Member Resources.					
Held a "Buddy"® Poppy drive					
Held a "Buddy"® Poppy drive with the VFW Post					
Reported quantity of "Buddy"® Poppies that were distributed through all drives and educational purposes for the year.					
Did your Auxiliary participate in the VFW "Buddy"® <i>Poppy Display contest.</i>					
Did your Auxiliary utilize the VFW National Home materials/resources in MALTA Member Resources					
Did your Auxiliary promote the VFW National Home					
Purchase at least one Life Membership to VFW National Home					
Promoted the VFW National Home Help Line					
Purchase at least one VFW National Home Tribute Brick.					

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Extension & Revitalization Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Chief of Staff-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans
Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

Do you know the duties of the Department Chief of Staff? The main duties are Extension (adding new auxiliaries) and Revitalization (assisting auxiliaries to get and stay Healthy).

The Chief of Staff for a Department is the main point of contact, particularly with the Unaffiliated (Bachelor) Posts. The Department Chief of Staff also works with the Department President, District Presidents, and Auxiliary Presidents to identify problems - **RED FLAGS** - in Auxiliaries and/or Districts and helps to create a plan to correct those problems. They make recommendations on improving auxiliaries.

Under Extension, The Chief of Staff works with VFW Posts interested in instituting a new Auxiliary. You can help in this process by contacting any unaffiliated posts in your District to provide them with information on the assets an auxiliary can have. If they show an interest, your next step is to contact the Department Chief of Staff. There are several items on the National Website that can assist you in this. Once we have instituted a new auxiliary we need to welcome, mentor, and recognize them.

Healthy Auxiliaries are what will allow our organization to continue into the future. Again, we need to make use of all the many items available on our websites. Know the 5 major things we need to do to be a healthy auxiliary...1. A minimum of 10 business meetings per year must be held, with a quorum (at least 5 members present). 2. By February 1st dues must be paid to at least 10 members. 3. Quarterly audits must be submitted in a timely manner. 4. Officers elected, installed, and reported to Department and National NO LATER THAN June 30th. 5. The offices of President and Treasurer MUST be bonded by August 31st. Make use of the Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit. (These are 7 resources to allow auxiliaries to recognize and solve issues early). Pretty simple really, follow those by-law requirements, make use of the tips provided, and you are well on your way to good health.

While the Chief of Staff takes the lead in getting auxiliaries back to health, we all have a part in making sure each of us is a member of a Healthy Auxiliary. Make it your mission to see that your auxiliary gets and stays a healthy, active, and supportive part of our organization.

NATIONAL AWARD FOR MEMBERS

\$25 VFW Store Gift Certificate to one member in each of the four Conferences who assisted the Department Chief of Staff in nurturing/strengthening a struggling Auxiliary and *utilized Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundations* in their efforts. The Department Chief must complete and submit the required nomination form available in MALTA Member Resources to the National Chief of Staff by April 30, 2024.

\$25 VFW Store gift certificates will be mailed directly to the winning members from National Headquarters after the National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS (To be presented at the 2024 Department Convention)

- ✓ A special gift to the organizer of NEW AUXILIARY instituted between July 1, 2023, and April 1, 2024.
- ✓ \$25 to each NEW AUXILIARY instituted between July 1, 2023, and April 1, 2024.
- ✓ A plaque to any Post instituting a NEW AUXILIARY between July 1, 2023, and April 1, 2024.
- ✓ A certificate of good health to all Healthy Auxiliaries
- ✓ \$10 to the Department member who is submitted by the Department Chief of Staff to the National Ambassador of who assisted them best in nurturing/strengthening a struggling Auxiliary while *utilizing Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundations in their efforts*.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 10-36	#2 37-50	#3 51-68	#4 69-84	#5 85-98
#6 99-115	#7 116-139	#8 140-166	#9 167-237	#10 238 &OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Did your Auxiliary utilize any of the Extension & Revitalization material/resources available in MATLA Member Resources		
Did your Auxiliary utilize the Department Chief of Staff for help, suggestions, and direction for your Auxiliary/member issues.		

Stephanie Krueger, Chief of Staff/Extension Chairman
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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Historian/Media Relations Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Historian/Media Relations-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

In order for us to know where we're going, we need to know where we've been.

Things change all the time, and I find it interesting to look at scrapbooks or pictures on the wall to see how things have changed through the years. If we don't have someone taking pictures or writing down what has taken place, how can we show our children how things used to be? The change could be how the VFW Auxiliary looked 10, 20, 30, 40, 50 or 75 years ago compared to now. That is why it's so important to document the history of your Auxiliary through both written and photographic methods.

Traditional Media

- * Newspapers
- * Television
- * Radio
- * Magazines
- * Door Hangers
- * Flyers

Digital Media

- * Email
- * Website
- * Social Media
- * Facebook
- * YouTube
- * Twitter
- * Snapchat
- * TikTok

Traditional Memory Keeping

- * Scrapbooks
- * Journals

As you can see there are many ways to communicate. Utilizing these forms of media will help you keep track and share the happenings in your Auxiliary. Even though you might not have heard of all these, they are still ways others might communicate with one another. I completely understand if you do not know how each one works. To be honest - I don't use all these methods, but my kids do!

A picture is worth a thousand words.

Make sure your photos are newsworthy when submitting to local media, sharing on social media, or putting in a scrapbook. You don't want to embarrass anyone at any time. If it is newsworthy, you will capture the reader's attention. If it's not, then they will move on to a photo or story that does.

NATIONAL AWARDS

Awards for Auxiliaries

1. Most outstanding video interview with a VFW Auxiliary legacy (longtime active) member.
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that submits a 3–5-minute video interview with a legacy Auxiliary member. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form and video interview to their Department Historian and Media Relations Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.

- The Department Historian and Media Relations Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form and video interview.
- Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
- Citation and @25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that submits most outstanding 3–5-minute video interview with a VFW Auxiliary legacy member.
- The Department Historian & Media Relations Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form with the winning video to the National Historian & Media Relations Ambassador by April 30, 2024, for judging.
- Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- ✓ Best Overall Historian/Media Relations program for the year among all membership categories \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
- ✓ Historian Book Contest \$50 in each Category (scrapbook and Digital) winners to be judged at 11:00 am on Saturday morning of Department Convention 2024. Citation of Merit to each winner.
- ✓ Best Overall Media Relations “how to” training to educate your members on use of Media Relations (Facebook, websites, snap chat, tik-tok) \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
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Achievements	Completed	Reported
Auxiliary utilized the Historian material/resources available In MALTA Member Resources		
Create a Historian’s book documenting the year by any means		
Auxiliary utilized the Media Relations material/resources available In MALTA Member Resources		
Monthly or quarterly newsletter sent to each member via printed mail or email		
Maintained a Facebook page for their OWN Auxiliary		
Maintained a Website for their OWN Auxiliary		
Maintained a Facebook JOINTLY with the VFW		
Maintained Website JOINTLY with the VFW		
Held a Media Relations “how to” training to educate your members (Examples: logging into MALTA, navigate Facebook or other social media)		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Hospital Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Hospital-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

The VFW Auxiliary was established in 1914. The Hospital Program was one of the first programs created. The program provides us with an opportunity to offer smiles, compassion, hope and encouragement to Veteran's confined to medical or nursing facilities. Volunteers bring love and support to Veterans and their families, reducing their fear and loneliness. Remember these men and women who fought for our country and freedom.

Your Auxiliary can support the Hospital Program by donating money through the Department office. You can designate your donation to a specific hospital and/or earmark for specific use. Support all Michigan VA facilities and Veteran's homes by paying the Department Suggested Hospital donation. The Department places the money in the Hospital Fund and sends monthly checks to the VAVS Representatives to purchase what is needed for the patients.

Members can volunteer at any hospital or nursing home. Remember, every nursing home, local hospital and VA medical facility are different in their policies, allowable activities, and screening procedures. Contact volunteer services before solidifying your plans for an activity.

Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition and Support

Medical facilities are slowly allowing visitors and volunteers onsite. Consider joining the team of volunteers at a VA or non-VA medical facility in your area. Due to the shortage of nurses and medical personnel, volunteers are even more critical. Contact volunteer services to find out what positions are available. Some facilities may offer evening positions for those who work full-time.

Don't forget to recognize your hospital volunteers. This is key to retaining and even recruiting volunteers. They want to feel appreciated for their work. Recognize them with certificates, Volunteer Hour Service Pins, and/or gifts. One volunteer from each Auxiliary may be nominated for Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year.

Valentines for Veterans

Share the love we have for our Veterans and service members on Valentine's Day by sending Valentine cards or hosting an event in their honor. It is time to say a heartfelt "Thank you" to the Veterans who are receiving care in Michigan's medical centers, outpatient clinics and nursing homes.

Veterans' Health Care & Women Veterans Health Care

The VA strives to provide ALL Veteran's, regardless of gender, with high-quality primary care, preventative services, and specialty care. Women are the fastest growing group within the Veteran population; yet less than one-third utilize their VA health care benefits. To meet the unique needs of Women Veterans, the VA continues to tailor and develop comprehensive health services. Their privacy, safety and dignity are protected rights.

Honors Escort Program

The Honors Escort Program is an opportunity for the Veteran's family and friends, other Veterans and medical staff to honor the departed Veteran with reverence and respect at the time of their death.

NATIONAL AWARD 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, 2023 to March 31, 2024. Entry form required available on MALTA Member Resources. Citations to be mailed directly to winners after the National Convention.
2. "Hospital Volunteer Recruiter of the Year" plaque awarded to one Auxiliary member in the nation who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2023, to March 31, 2024. Entry form required available on MALTA Member Resources. Plaque to be mailed directly to the winner after the National Convention.
3. Citation to the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in each of the 10 Program Divisions. Entry form required available on MALTA Member Resources. Citations to be mailed directly to winners after the National Convention.

NATIONAL AWARD FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event that recognizes veterans on non-traditional Holidays.
2. Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that recognizes veterans on non-traditional holidays. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Hospital Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.
3. The Department Hospital Chairman must email national Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted and entry form.
4. Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
5. Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that host the most outstanding activity and /or event recognizing veterans on non-traditional holidays.
6. The Department Hospital Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National Hospital Ambassador by April 30, 2024, for judging.
7. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- Best **Hospital Program** in each membership category
 - \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Promotion of **Veterans' Health Care (VHA) Women Veterans' Health Care** in each membership category
 - \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Promotion of the **Volunteer Recruitment and Recognition**
 - \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Promotion educating members and medical facilities on the **Honors Escort Program**
 - \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Promotion of "**Valentines for Veterans**"
 - \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Plaque presented to Michigan's Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year at the 2024 Department Convention

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

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Achievements	Completed	Reported
Reported 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 volunteered at any VA and/or non-VA medical facility (Report throughout 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		
Promoted, participated any of the following activities: Honor's Escort, National Salute to Veteran Patients-Valentines for Veterans, Veterans Health Care (VHA), Women Veterans Health Care Program		
Hosted/co-hosted with the VFW any of the following activities: Honor's Escort, National Salute to Veteran Patients-Valentines for Veterans, Veterans Health Care (VHA), Women Veterans Health Care Program		
Total value of money to the "Department Hospital Program" or value of items to any VA or non-VA medical facility		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Legislative Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Legislative-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

One of the main objectives of the Legislative Program is to improve the lives of our veterans, service members and their families through advocacy. You are joining 1.5 million VFW and Auxiliary to influence lawmakers whose decision affect veterans and their families every day.

The Priority Goals passed by the VFW reflect resolutions that strengthen and ensure an adequate VA system for millions of current and future veterans. These resolutions call for much needed attention to issues such as veteran homelessness and suicide. The resolutions and /or bill request full funding of unemployment, improving timely transition assistance for veterans after leaving their military service. The year the Priority Goals focus on:

- ✓ Budget
- ✓ Health Care
- ✓ Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs
- ✓ Education, Employment and Transition Assistance
- ✓ Military Quality of Life
- ✓ National Security, Foreign Affairs and POW/MIA

These goals are reviewed and renewed each January. You can check the VFW website or MALTA Member Resources for the current Priority Goals. While you are looking at this information, be sure to sign up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly report. This is a weekly update of activities in Washington DC. (<https://votervoice.net/VFW/register/>)

The Legislative Program is an important part of the supportive services the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary has developed and maintained for over a century. We help many individuals with our efforts, and you are appreciated for being a member of this wonderful organization.

Please utilize the resources in the VFW Auxiliary MALTA under member resources. There are an assortment of tools for you to use in being proactive in educating the community about the VFW Priority Goals. (www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources/)

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- ✓ Best Legislative program in each membership category
\$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Promotion/Participation with their VFW Post regarding VFW Priority Goals.
\$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community on veteran Legislative issues.
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community on veteran legislative issues. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Legislative Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.
 - The Department Legislative Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters
 - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community on Legislative issues.
 - The Department legislative Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National Legislative Ambassador by April 30, 2024, for judging.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to the winning Auxiliary from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER
Achievements			Completed	Reported
Auxiliary utilized the Legislative material/resources available in MALTA Member Resources				
Report the number of Auxiliary members who are subscribed to VFW's <i>Action Corps Weekly</i> E-Newsletter				
Promoted, participated and/or hosted activities regarding the VFW Priority Goals				
Promoted, participated and/or co-hosted activities with your VFW Post on the VFW Priority Goals through Dashboard Reporting				
Auxiliary members contacted their legislators on veteran's issues by any means (ex: emails, letters, postcards, phone calls, etc.)				
Auxiliary members attended events where they could interact with legislators (ex: Legislative conf., town halls, meet-&-greet, etc.)				
Report invitations made to representatives to attend honors/awards programs (i.e. Scout of the Year, VOD, Holiday Program). Include the name of the Legislator who attended.				

Aileen Adragna- Legislative Chairperson
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 248-346-3411
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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Membership Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Membership-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

Membership this year might feel a little different than in recent years, but the main goals of membership are still going to be the same. We need to reach out to our VFW Posts and get out into our communities to find, then recruit new members. Most importantly we need to retain the current members on our rolls and reach out to reconnect with former members.

This year there is an extra fun challenge between the four Membership Conferences. It's all about the movies. The Big Ten Movie Theme is "The Incredibles". So, from time to time I will be asking you all to use your Superpowers for Membership.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR Members

- 1. Lights, Camera, Action!** Pin to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits five (5) new members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024. Department Treasurer must enter membership in MALTA with credit given to the recruiter by June 10, 2024. Lights, Camera, Action! Pin will be mailed directly to the members from National Headquarters.
- 2. National Membership Achievement Award** to each VFW and VFW Auxiliary member who recruits twenty (20) new members to the VFW Auxiliary from July 1, 2023, through May 31, 2024, Department Treasurer must enter Membership in MALTA with credit given to the recruiter by June 10, 2024. NMA Award to be presented at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. If a member is not in attendance, the award to be mailed directly to the member from National Headquarters after the National Convention.
- 3. Lights, Camera, Action! VFW Auxiliary Recruiter Drawing** Each VFW Auxiliary National Membership Achievement Award recipient will be entered into a drawing to receive a \$500 Visa Gift Card (VFW Recruiters are not eligible) Recruiter Award Forms are no longer needed for VFW Auxiliary members. Reports are compiled by VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters from Information entered in MALTA. VFW members who recruit new VFW Auxiliary members will need to fill out the required VFW members-only form that is available on MALTA Member Resources. Completed form must be received at VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and Department Treasurer must enter Membership in MALTA by June 10, 2024.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- \$25 to each Auxiliary that reaches 98% Plus in Membership by March 31, 2024
- \$25 to each Auxiliary that reaches 100% Plus in Membership by June 30, 2024
- Lights, Camera, Action! VFW Auxiliary Drawing. Each VFW Auxiliary that reaches 101% plus by June 30, 2024, will be entered into a onetime drawing to receive \$500.00.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- Each Auxiliary that secures a minimum of five (5) New/Rejoined member(s) and processed at the Department Headquarters by September 26, 2023, will be entered in a drawing for \$50.00 (one only) at the Fall Conference.
- To be eligible for \$50.00 Mid-Winter drawing the New/Rejoined member(s) must be Processed at Department Headquarters by January 15, 2024. (one only)
- To be eligible for the \$50.00 drawing at the Department Convention the New/Rejoined member(s) must be received at the Department Headquarters by May 27, 2024. (one only) Once entered the Auxiliary will remain in the drawing through Department Convention.
- *Each Auxiliary that reaches 100% will be entered into a drawing. Once entered the Auxiliary will remain in the drawing through June Convention. Each Auxiliary pulled will receive \$25. Fifteen (15) will be drawn at Fall Conference, ten (10) at Mid-Winter and five (5) at Department Convention.
- A Special Citation to the Auxiliary for achieving 100% by May 31, 2024

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR MEMBERS

- For everyone (1) new or rejoined member that you recruit, your name will be entered in up to three drawings for \$10 prizes. There will be a drawing at Fall Conference with 20 names drawn, a drawing at Mid-Winter with 15 names drawn, and a drawing at Department Convention with 10 names drawn. Once a name is placed in the drawing, it will remain in the drawing throughout the year. VFW and Auxiliary members are eligible for this award.
- Each Auxiliary or VFW Post member who secures 20 new or rejoined members from July 1, 2023, to April 30, 2024, with report pulled from MALTA, will receive a \$25 check at the Department Convention.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER
Achievements			Completed	Reported
Utilized the membership materials/resources available in MALTA Member Resources				
Auxiliary promoted, participated, hosted, or co-hosted with their VFW Post, activities regarding VFW and/or VFW Auxiliary education and Membership Recruitment				
Auxiliary chairman educated their members on the benefits of their membership (Ex: insurance plans, travel benefits, cancer grants, hearing plans, etc.)				
Auxiliary chairman educated their members on the National Membership program awards.				
Auxiliary members at any level participated in any recruiting event.				
How many new members did your Auxiliary recruit				

Wendi Hall

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Mentoring for Leadership Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Mentoring for Leadership-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

Thank you for stepping into the role of Auxiliary Mentoring for Leadership Chairman. As you develop your program you will begin to feel more confident in sharing your knowledge of the organization, our Bylaws, the Ritual, and the Traditions that we were founded upon that still hold true today.

A mentor in your Auxiliary should be a member(s) with good communication skills. They should possess a positive attitude and most assuredly display patience with all members while trying to instruct and mentor.

Knowledge is a powerful asset. By sharing with each member, we are assuring the successful outcome of our individual Auxiliaries. More and more members will become equipped with tools for leadership within the Auxiliary. Thus, making them confident to be elected to Auxiliary officer and Leadership positions.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR MEMBERS

1. Citation award to the first, second and third place VFW Auxiliary members in each Department with the most unique and/or creative way to mentor a member to become a leader. Three nominations from each Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman are due to the National Mentoring for Leadership Ambassador by April 30th, 2024.
Citations will be mailed directly to winners from National Headquarters after the National Convention.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event that educated their Auxiliary Members about how to find and train mentees while using and promoting VFW Auxiliary resources and learning materials.
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or training that educates their Auxiliary members on how to find and train mentees while using and promoting Auxiliary resources and learning materials. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman by March 31, 2024, for Judging.
 - The Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman must email national Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combine list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted and entry form.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.

- Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that host the most outstanding activity and/or training that educated their Auxiliary Members on how to find and train mentees while using and promoting Auxiliary resources and learning materials.
- The Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National mentoring for Leadership Ambassador by April 30, 2024, for judging.
- Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary accounts after the National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

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1. The top three winners selected by the Department Mentoring for Leadership Chairman for the Most Outstanding Mentor/Leader will receive:
 - 1st Place: \$25.00 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
Entry will be submitted to National.
 - 2nd and 3rd Place: Certificates of Achievement to the winners.
\$10.00 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.
2. Best Overall activity or training, within an Auxiliary targeting Mentoring for Leadership.
 - \$10.00 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Auxiliary utilized the Mentoring for Leadership material/resources available in MALTA Member Resources		
Auxiliary educated members on the National Mentoring for Leadership Program Awards		
Auxiliary had members who stepped up to the role of mentor.		
Auxiliary held a special recognition for the mentors in their Auxiliary.		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Scholarships Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Scholarships-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

Welcome to the 2023-2024 VFW Auxiliary Scholarship program and congratulation on being chosen as this year's chairman. Being the chairman of this program brings lots of opportunities for your auxiliary to engage with the youth of your community. The focus of your role is to promote participation of the auxiliary, promote participation of students, recognition of the students, teachers, and schools in the programs. Assisting the VFW with the promotion of the scholarships within the community with achieve success of the programs. Completion of the programs meets the goals.

Continuing Education:

Continuing Education Scholarship: This program is open to any Auxiliary member (who has been a member for at least a year), their spouse, son, or daughter. Entrants must be at least 21 years old, complete the application, and submit an essay. The application must be received at National Headquarters by February 15, 2024. Four \$1,000.00 scholarships will be awarded.

Patriotic Art:

1. Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest: This two-dimensional contest is open to any student in grades 9-12, who is a U.S. Citizen or U.S. National. The applicant does not have to be related to a VFW or VFW Auxiliary member but must attend school in the same Department as the sponsoring VFW Auxiliary. Entries will be judged on Patriotic theme and technique. One Michigan winner will be forwarded to National. Please refer to the student brochure that can be found at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships for more details on requirements for artwork and the application.
2. 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest: Refer to the guidelines listed above in the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest.

Deadlines for both contests: Local Auxiliary – March 31, 2024, Department – April 15, 2024

Donations to the Patriotic Art Escrow Fund are a vital part of this program to help increase the awards for this contest. The goal is to increase the number and dollar amounts of the awards. Your auxiliary's participation in a fundraiser will help with this cause.

Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen:

1. **Assist VFW Post with Voice of Democracy Audio-Essay Contest:** Theme: What are the Greatest Attributes of our Democracy? The contest is open to all students, including home schooled students, in grades 9-12. Students must be a resident of the state where entered. A theme is assigned by the National VFW every year. Students write and then record their original 3-5-minute essay on the theme announced on an audio CD or flash drive. Please refer to the student brochure that can be found at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships for complete details on requirements and

application for contest.

2. **2023-24 Assist VFW Post with Patriot's Pen Essay Contest:** Theme: How are you Inspired by America? The contest is open to all students, including home-schooled students, in grades 6-8. Students must be a resident of the state where entered. Student must write an original 300-400-word essay on the National Theme. Please refer to the student brochure at www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships for complete details on requirements and application for contest.

Deadlines-Student submits to Post by **Oct. 31, 2023**. Post submits to the District by **November 15, 2023** (for both VOD and PP).

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the VFW Auxiliary.
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community about scholarship opportunities through the Auxiliary. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Scholarships Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.
 - The Department Scholarships Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at infor@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.
 - Citation will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about scholarship opportunities through the Auxiliary.
 - 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, 2024, for judging.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- ✓ Best promotion of the Scholarship Program in each membership category
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Overall promotion of the Continuing Education Scholarship
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Overall promotion of 2-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best promotion of 3-Dimensional Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest in each membership category. Auxiliary must send the required National Entry Form to the Department Chairman.
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Overall promotion of Voice of Democracy
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to Auxiliary
- ✓ Best Overall promotion of Patriots Pen Program
\$10 and a Citation of Merit to Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Promoted/participated in the Continuing Education Scholarship Contest.		
Did your Auxiliary donate to the Continuing Education Scholarship?		
Promoted/participated in the Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarship.		
How many students submitted art entries for judging.		
How many art entries sent on to Department for judging.		
Did your Auxiliary donate to Young American Creative Patriotic Art Scholarship.		
Promoted/participated in the 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest Scholarship.		
How many students submitted 3-Dimensional art entries for judging		
How many 3-Dimensional art entries sent on to Department for judging.		
Did your Auxiliary donate to 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest Scholarship.		
Did your Auxiliary assist the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Patriot's pen Essay Contest.		
Did your Auxiliary assist the VFW Post in promoting or conducting the Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Contest.		
Did your Auxiliary hold an award ceremony for to recognize awardees and participants in any /all contests.		
How much money amount did your Auxiliary spend for recognizing the participants and the awards.		

Denise Arnold
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Scholarship and Contest Resources

VFW website: www.vfw.org/community/youth-and-education
 VFW Auxiliary website: www.vfwauxiliary.org/scholarships
 Department website: www.vfwauxmi.org/scholarships
 VFW Store: www.vfwstore.org



Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Veterans & Family Support Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Veterans & Family Support-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

This year we will be Banding Together to support Our Veterans, the Angels Among Us by offering helpful resources, offering guidance about acquiring VA benefits, supporting higher education goals, and supporting our veterans when life doesn't seem to be measuring up. This year, our primary points of focus will be Veterans and Military Support Programs, National Veterans Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness.

VFW National Veterans Service (NVS)

NVS is a nationwide network of nearly 300 highly skilled VFW Service Officers (VSO) who help veterans (member or not) navigate the Veteran Affairs (VA) system to get the benefits they and their dependents deserve. NVS also work tirelessly to ensure veterans receive accessible and timely VA health care. Donate by mail by sending funds to the VFW National Headquarters earmarked for NVS.

VFW Veterans & Military Support Program

These are programs that support and serve active duty and recently discharged military.

- **Military Assistance Program (MAP):** MAP helps VFW and Auxiliary support their local military units by providing financial assistance for Posts, Districts, and Department to sponsor morale-boosting send-offs, homecomings, and casual get-togethers. Post and Auxiliaries participating in **Adopt-a-Unit** and Family Readiness Group events can also receive assistance. For guidelines to apply for MAP funds, contact VFW Veterans & Military Support office at 816-756-3390.
- **Unmet Needs:** Unmet Needs provides grants up to \$1,500 to active-duty service members and their families to assist with basic life needs, like mortgage or rent payments, home or auto repairs, food, and clothing to name a few. To learn more, visit vfw.org/assistance/financial-grants.
- **VFW "Sport Clips® Help A Hero Scholarship"**- This is scholarship to our nation's hero as a way of thanking them for their dedicated service to our nation. Scholarship awards of up to \$5,000 are distributed to qualifying veterans and service members to help them complete their educational goals while incurring excessive student loan debt. To learn more, visit vfw.org/student-veterans-support.

Veteran & Military Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness

Everyday veterans die by suicide and the VFW and VFW Auxiliaries are committed to helping change the conversation and stigma surrounding mental health. Make a difference in the life of a veteran or service member by educating yourself and others about the warning signs of suicide.

- **Five Warning Signs:** Personality Change, Agitation, Withdrawal, Poor Self-Care, and Hopelessness.
- **The Veterans Crisis Line** Connects veterans in crisis and their families and friends with qualified, caring Department of Veterans Affairs responders through confidential support

that is available 24/7. Veterans and their loved ones can:

- Call 1-800-MyVA411 to access all VA Departments
- Call 988 and Press 1
- Chat online at www.veterancrisisline.net, or
- Send a text message to 838255.
- Wear blue tear drop pin or sticker to show your support available in MALTA or the VFW Store.
- Educate yourself and explore National and Local resources available.

NATIONAL AWARDS

1. Most outstanding activities and/or event to increase awareness of military suicide and mental health.
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event to increase awareness of military suicide and mental health. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman by March 31, 2024, for Judging.
 - The Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at infor@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.
 - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that host the most outstanding activity and/or event to increase awareness of military suicide and mental health.
 - The Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National Veterans & Family Support Ambassador by April 30, 2024, for judging.
2. Most outstanding activity and/or event that increases the support of veterans, service members and their families.
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event to increase support of veterans, service members and their families. Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.
 - The Department Veterans & Family Support Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30, 2024, at infor@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

- Best Veteran & Family Support program in each membership category. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall activity and/or event to increase awareness of military suicide and mental health. Auxiliary must send in required National form. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary; Citation to the Chairman
- Best Overall activity and/or event to increase the support of veterans, service members and their families. Auxiliary must send in required National form. \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

#1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
Auxiliary utilized the Veterans & Family Support material/resources available in MALTA Member Resources		
Auxiliary promoted, participated, hosted/co-hosted 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		
Auxiliary provided direct aid to veterans, service members, and/or their families (i.e., meals, transportation, cards, packages, donations, etc.)		
How many Veterans, service members and or their families did your auxiliary help.		
Did your Auxiliary provide monetary donations and / or value donations and good/services provided to veterans, service members and /or their families.		

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary Youth Activities Guide Sheet 2023-2024

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Youth Activities/Camp Trotter-Michigan

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

What a great chairmanship! YOUTH ACTIVITIES! Having the opportunity to present VFW Auxiliary Programs to a young mind, hungry for knowledge is so exciting. Working together we can introduce our young people to Patriotism, the importance of Veterans and how they can be a strong positive influence on the future. Presenting the VFW Auxiliary Programs and working with the Youth gives us the opportunity to help them focus on the positive side of life and appreciate the fact that they have the power to become responsible citizens.

I love to see the wide-eyed wonderment of my five-year-old grandson every time he tells me something he learned or the pride in the voice of my teenage grandson when he tells me how he volunteered to help someone in need. It doesn't matter what the age of the young people we serve, what is important is - we take the time to show the way to a positive outcome. Remember, it all starts with you – Together we are “Banding Together for our Veterans” – because we care enough to educate our youth & teach them - “Our Veterans, Angels Among Us!”

In Michigan we have an extra special Youth Activity in Camp Trotter (the most beautiful Youth Camp in the State of Michigan) & it happens to be run by the Department of Michigan VFW (with help from the Auxiliary). I will be updating you about Camp Trotter as the year goes on in my monthly bulletins.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Most outstanding activity and/or event educating their community about Patriotism Through literacy and utilizing the Random Act of patriotism card (R.A.P.)
 - Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and/or event that educates their community about Patriotism Through Literacy and utilizes the Random Act of Patriotism card (R.A.P.) Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to their Department Youth Activities Chairman by March 31, 2024, for judging.
 - The Department Youth Activities Chairman must email National Headquarters by April 30, 2024 at info@vfwauxiliary.org a total combined list of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from National Headquarters
 - Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and/or event that educates their community about Patriotism Through literacy and utilizing the Random Act of patriotism card (R.A.P.)
 - The Department Youth Activities Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department-winning entry form to the National Youth Activities Ambassador April 30, 2024, for judging.
 - Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after National Convention.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

- Best Auxiliary working with and/or sponsoring Youth Groups in each membership category \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall Promotion/participation in the Youth Groups Supporting Our Veterans Citations \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall Promotion/participation in the Patriotic Youth Award Program \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall Promotion/participation in Patriotism through Literacy \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall Promotion/participation in the Illustrating America Program \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall Promotion/participation in the Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue Program! \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Best Overall Promotion/participation of Camp Trotter program \$10 and Citation of Merit to the Auxiliary
- Citation to each Auxiliary donating to the Camp Trotter Scholarship/General Fund

DEPARTMENT AWARDS FOR STUDENTS

- Get Excited for the Red, White, and Blue winner in each grade division (K-8, & 9-12) receives \$50.
- Illustrating America winner in each grade division (K-2, 3-5, & 6-8) receive \$50.

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

1 -10-36	#2 -37-50	#3 51-68	#4 - 69-84	#5 - 85-98
#6 - 99-115	#7 - 116-139	#8 -140-166	#9 -167-237	#10 -238-OVER

Achievements	Completed	Reported
How many Youth Groups did your Auxiliary sponsor, and/or worked with?		
Auxiliary recognized a youth group by presenting a "Youth Group Supporting our Veterans Citation" (Report number of citations presented).		
How many Youth worked with you on your project?		
Did your Auxiliary participate in Patriotism through Literacy program?		
How many books did your auxiliary donate to the Patriotism through Literacy program?		
Did your Auxiliary promoted/participate in the Red, White and Blue singing contest		
How many students submitted entries for the Red, White and Blue singing contest		
How many entries submitted to Department for the Red, White and Blue singing contest?		
Did your Auxiliary hold an award ceremony for the Red, White and Blue singing contest?		
Total dollar amount of money your Auxiliary spent for the Red, White and Blue singing contest for awards?		
Auxiliary promoted/participated in the Illustrating America Art Contest?		
How many Students submitted entries for Illustrating America Art Contest?		
How many entries submitted to Department for the Illustrating America Art Contest		
Did your Auxiliary hold an award ceremony for Illustrating America Art Contest		
Total dollar amount of money your Auxiliary spent for Illustrating America Art Contest awards?		

EVELYN AVERY, CHAIRMAN

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Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary
Auxiliary Achievement/Circle of Excellence Guide Sheet 2023-2024
www.vfwauxmi.org

National Theme: Banding Together for our Veterans

Department Theme: Our Veterans, The Angels Among Us

Congratulations on your election as President of your Auxiliary. The success of your Auxiliary depends on your leadership. As President, your officers and chairmen will look to you for guidance throughout the year. Being a President is a position of accountability, responsibility, and integrity. Every Auxiliary can earn Auxiliary Achievement, but it will take teamwork to accomplish the goals.

COMPLETED ENTRY MUST BE POSTMARKED BY MAY 1, 2024.

The top 20 Auxiliaries will earn Auxiliary Achievement Circle of Excellence. They will be selected on a point basis. In case of a tie, I will use the tie breaker points. Winning Auxiliaries will receive a \$50 check and a Citation of Merit.

Announcement and Presentation of the Auxiliary Achievement Circle of Excellence winners will be held at the 2024 Department Convention.

A special citation will be given to all Auxiliary Presidents submitting a report for this program.

Work as a TEAM toward the goals for each section. Complete as many of the listed tasks as possible and make the necessary donations.

TO BE NAMED WINNER OF AUXILIARY ACHIEVEMENT

YOU MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

1. Auxiliary **MUST** be represented at each of your own District Meetings.
2. Membership **MUST** be 95% by December 1, 2023.
3. All monies owed to the Department **MUST** be paid in full by March 31, 2024.
4. ALL audits **MUST** be received at the Department Office ON TIME.
5. Report at **least one (1)** time between May 1, 2023, and April 20, 2024 in each chairmanship (including Extension & Revitalization)
6. Report of Installation **MUST** be received in Department by July 15, 2023.
7. IRS form 990 report **MUST** be completed by November 15, 2023 and copy mailed to the Department Treasurer. (Unless your Auxiliary does long form, then notify Department)
8. This Questionnaire **MUST BE COMPLETED AND INCLUDED IN THIS REPORT.**

SECTION ONE: PRESIDENTS LEADERSHIP	POINTS	EARNED
President held a planning meeting	5	
Within 30 days of taking office, President provided financial information and 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 July 15, 2023. Copy sent to Department and District.	10	
List of Chairmen sent to Department AND District Secretary by July 15, 2023	5	
Offices of President and Treasurer bonded for double the Auxiliary funds by August 31, 2023	5	
President presided over 10 business meetings – 1 point per meeting	10 max	
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	10	
President, Sr. Vice or Jr. Vice registered for Mid-Winter Conference (Jan 2024)	10	
President signed up at least 1 new/rejoined member. Must have your member ID # on the application to achieve the point.	5	

Maximum Points Section 1 – 80

Total Earned _____

SECTION TWO: AUXILIARY PARTICIPATION	POINTS	EARNED
All Auxiliary officers' dues MUST be paid by December 15, 2023	10	
Achieved 100% PLUS 1 in membership by March 31, 2024	10	
Auxiliary actively participated and reported in Department Programs	10	
Auxiliary member other than the President registered/attended ALL OWN District Meetings	10	
At least one (1) member attend a training held by Department Officers	10	
Participated in the Department Presidents Special Project	5	

Maximum Points Section 2 – 55

Total Earned _____

SECTION THREE: AUXILIARY DONATIONS/QUOTAS	POINTS	EARNED
Donation to ALL Department Suggested Donations	10	
National Home Health & Happiness Quota paid to National VFW Auxiliary by December 31, 2023	5	
Auxiliary Program Pin monies paid by March 1, 2024	5	
Donation to the National Presidents Special Project	5	

Maximum Points Section 3 – 25

Total Earned _____

