



**Veterans of foreign Wars Auxiliary
Department of Wisconsin
Council of Administration – July 2024
Auxiliary Outreach**

Our new National Auxiliary Outreach Ambassador is Bambi Johnson from Arizona. She provided a bulletin with a lot of valuable information and I would like to share some of that with you.

Auxiliary Outreach is partnering with organizations for the benefit of your community or its institutions. While emphasis is placed on our core VFW and Auxiliary programs, we realize auxiliaries also participate with other community organizations. Auxiliaries can now report and be recognized for such community work through the Auxiliary Outreach Program. Projects may be done by the Auxiliary alone or with the VFW Post. Collectively, all our volunteer hours need to be counted to effectively show the importance of the local VFW and VFW Auxiliary to the community.

Be visible and show your pride in the VFW Auxiliary by wearing Auxiliary branded attire when you participate in Auxiliary outreach. A shirt, jacket, or hat with the auxiliary emblem can start a conversation about the Auxiliary and what we do. It is also a great way to show members volunteering out in our communities and not just in our Post.

What is considered Auxiliary Outreach? When an Auxiliary partners with an organization outside of its own, it should be considered Auxiliary Outreach **if the project was approved by the Auxiliary and recorded in the meeting minutes prior to the project.**

Some examples of qualifying activities are:

Spending time in a local homeless shelter kitchen serving meals, bussing tables, or cleaning up.

Partnering with the police or fire department on bicycle or home safety training class.

Your auxiliary approves helping a local cancer group setting up their event or helping out at the booth.

Partnering with the garden club to clean up local parks.

Helping a youth group collect food donations for the local food pantry.

Outreach Can:

Be performed by one auxiliary member or a group of auxiliary members.

Be performed by people of any age, skill set or ability level.

Benefit any group of people, such as children, senior citizens, and those with disabilities.

Benefit animals, the environment, and public spaces.

Be done in communities of all types – rural, suburban, urban, small and large.

Auxiliary outreach should follow this order:

Find local groups & Organizations in need of assistance

Ask what your auxiliary can do to help them

VOTE at your auxiliary meeting to approve the activity

Form the partnerships

Report the details

Department Achievement Awards:

- \$10 award to the Most outstanding photo collage created by the VFW Auxiliary or their VFW Auxiliary Outreach partnerships during the current Program Year.
- \$10 award to the auxiliary with the highest number of combined hours volunteering with another organization not affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary (#4 on the year-end report).

National Achievement Award:

Most outstanding photo collage created by the VFW Auxiliary or their VFW Auxiliary Outreach partnerships during the current Program Year.

- Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that creates the most outstanding photo collage of their VFW Auxiliary partnerships during the current Program year.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to their Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. 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, 2025 for judging.

I would like to thank President Cheryl for providing me with this opportunity.

Alicia Weix

VFWA Dept. Auxiliary Outreach Chairperson

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