



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary  
Department of Maryland

# AUXILIARY OUTREACH PROGRAM

*Reaching Out* in **FEBRUARY & MARCH**



## Volunteer Opportunities Around Our State

- ✓ Daughter for the Day (Ft. Washington)  
301-203-7050
- ✓ The Arnold House (Waldorf)  
301-932-8555
- ✓ Deeds of Faith Food Pantry (Westminster)  
410-848-5537
- ✓ The Arc of Southern Maryland (Calvert, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties)  
410-535-2413



Please share any opportunities to *reach out* near your community at your next Auxiliary meeting.

*Based on information from the Internet online.*

## *Reaching Out* to Learn More About...

### Maryland's SPCA



The Maryland SPCA operates out of one small campus in Baltimore. Donations and program fees make up 99% of the SPCA's budget yet over 2,000 pets are rescued and adopted each year. Volunteers willing to show their love for animals by giving their time are also needed. If you are unable to adopt or foster an animal but want to help, you could offer to be a:

- ✦ Dog Deputy walking dogs in the shelter.
- ✦ Front Desk Concierge providing customer service for visitors in administrative and kennel settings.
- ✦ Kibble Connection Volunteer organizing and delivering pet food and supplies to families in their homes.
- ✦ Amazon Warrior joining staff members at Amazon distribution facilities to pick up donations for the SPCA.
- ✦ Cat Cuddler providing socialization and enrichment for cats needing homes.
- ✦ Event Volunteer representing the SPCA at community adoption and fundraising events.

For volunteer information contact the SPCA at:

[www.mdspca.org/contact](http://www.mdspca.org/contact)

or call the Main Campus on Falls Road in Baltimore at 410-235-8826.

**Remember:** Include your travel time to and from the volunteer site with the time you actually volunteer for the SPCA when reporting on the Department form.



*Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others.*

**Booker T. Washington**  
Educator and Activist



### Outreach Shooting Stars

AUX 467's Kathleen Williams and Sherry Sheckels partnered with *Lil' Hops Cycle* this past summer to work at their fundraiser to help the local fire department. Great Job!

Please take time to thank your Auxiliary Outreach Program volunteers for *reaching out*. Certificates will be mailed to your Auxiliary's Secretary to recognize the members you reported. Make it a *celebration of service*. Then take a group photo for your Post bulletin board and for me! Be proud of all you do for your community.





# Reaching Out FEBRUARY & MARCH p2

## National VFWA is Awarding Citations

Our National Auxiliary is recognizing every Auxiliary that has participated in the Auxiliary Outreach Program. Complete the form included with this mailing – **Auxiliary Award No. 1** – by describing one of your partnerships with a community organization.

Send me the form **by March 31<sup>st</sup>**. A citation will be mailed directly to your Auxiliary. You may even win the top award for our conference. With many wonderful partnerships reported this year, I am confident that Maryland could be our Conference winner at Convention!



## Thank You.....

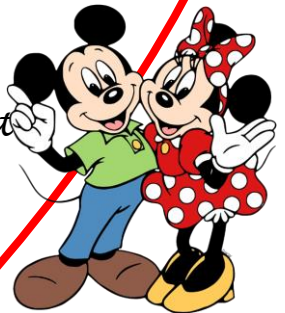


Being your Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman this past year was a truly wonderful experience. I had the opportunity to meet many dedicated members and to learn of the commitment of the VFW Auxiliary, not just to our veterans, but to make America a better, stronger nation one neighborhood at a time.

My thanks to all of our Outreach volunteers for their unselfish giving and to Auxiliary Chairmen for taking time to report their partnerships. It saddens me knowing the many volunteer hours that were not reported. We need to accurately reflect the *volunteer spirit* of Maryland. We can only do this by reporting.

See you at Convention!

*Cathy Gistedt*  
Outreach Chairman  
2023 - 2024



## Time is Running Out!

The 2023 – 2024 program reporting year is coming to an end and so is a final chance to send in reports. Has your Auxiliary completed at least one project for Auxiliary Outreach? There is still time.

So many have asked for ideas of where they could partner in their community. The time is now! Check out the February calendar included in this mailing for ways to volunteer.....and *reach out!*

## Thanks to These Auxiliaries for Reporting



10078 2462 3285 7464  
5246 6027  
10146 10067 521  
304 6658 6918 10028  
5246 3065 160  
194 8185 7460 1687

November 16<sup>th</sup> 2023 – January 12<sup>th</sup> 2024

**The deadline to mail all reports, photos, and any Bonus Point items is APRIL 15<sup>th</sup>. Make sure your Auxiliary is receiving all the credit earned in the Auxiliary Outreach Program.**

Cathy Gistedt, Outreach Chairman  
2911 Ritchie Avenue  
Edgemere, MD 21219-1244  
410-477-1078  
[cathygistedt123@gmail.com](mailto:cathygistedt123@gmail.com)



## Team M & M .... You're the Best!


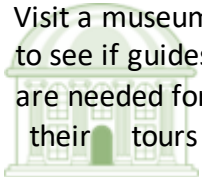


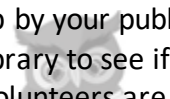
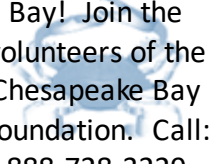

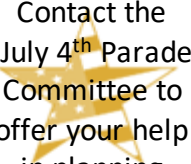
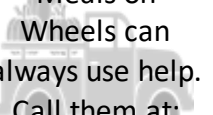
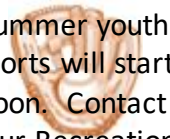
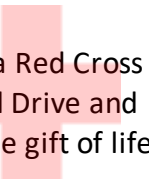





# FEBRUARY



*Auxiliary Outreach Calendar of Ideas to Reach Out*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Team M &amp; M</i></p>				<p><b>1</b> Live by the SPCA? Dog Walkers are always needed. Call: 410-235-8826</p>	<p><b>2</b> Visit a museum to see if guides are needed for their tours</p> 	<p><b>3</b> Grab a group of friends for a community clean-up....get down and dirty</p>
<p><b>4</b> Contact the Maryland Food Bank: Baltimore Office – 410-737-8282 Eastern Shore (Salisbury) – 410-742-0050 Western Branch (Hagerstown) – 410-737-8282</p>  			<p><b>7</b> Like working with your hands? Call Habitat for Humanity at: <a href="http://www.habitat.org/volunteer/near-you">www.habitat.org/volunteer/near-you</a></p>	<p><b>8</b> Consider helping the children by volunteering for the March of Dimes: Call: 888-663-4637</p>	<p><b>9</b> Check your community bulletin board and Facebook for groups that could use help</p>	<p><b>10</b> Stop by your public library to see if volunteers are needed...and get a book to read</p> 
<p><b>11</b> Contact a local elementary school to help plan Earth Day Celebrations coming in March</p>	<p><b>12</b> Save Our Bay! Join the volunteers of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Call: 888-728-3229</p> 	<p><b>13</b> The Alzheimer Association can use help. email: <a href="mailto:volunteer@alz.org">volunteer@alz.org</a></p>		<p><b>15</b> With 18 national parks in Maryland, they welcome volunteers. Call: 800-830-3974</p>	<p><b>16</b> Contact the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade Committee to offer your help in planning</p> 	<p><b>17</b> Help the PTA plan their end of year activities and fundraisers ... it's for the kids</p>
<p><b>18</b> Stop in a Senior Center to see how you could help</p>	<p><b>19</b> Want to stay home? Volunteer to transcribe for the Library of Congress</p>	<p><b>20</b> Offer your Volunteer Fire Department help with their fundraising</p>	<p><b>21</b> Make care kits for the homeless with the United Way. Call: 202-488-2000</p>	<p><b>22</b> Contact a school near you to offer to do tutoring after school</p>	<p><b>23</b> Offer to pack or deliver food from a Food Pantry in your neighborhood</p>	<p><b>24</b> Gilchrist Hospital Volunteer Training is offered. Call: 443-849-8376</p>
<p><b>25</b> Meals on Wheels can always use help. Call them at: 410-558-0827</p> 	<p><b>26</b> Go online to contact one of over 20 YMCA Centers to offer your skills</p>	<p><b>27</b> Summer youth sports will start soon. Contact your Recreation Council to help</p> 	<p><b>28</b> Enjoy working with numbers? Volunteer as an AARP tax-aide. Call: 888-227-7669</p>	<p><b>29</b> Hold a Red Cross Blood Drive and give the gift of life</p> 		



# Auxiliary Outreach

## Auxiliary Award No. 1

### Entry Form • 2023-2024 Program Year

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1. Most outstanding community partnership with another organization.

- **Citation** to every Auxiliary that partners with another organization within their community. Citations will be mailed directly to participating Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters.
- **Citation and \$25** to one Auxiliary in each of the four (4) Conferences with the most outstanding community partnership with another organization. Winners will be announced at the 2024 National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Citations will be mailed directly to winning Auxiliaries from VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters and money will be deposited into Auxiliary account after VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

**Auxiliaries are to send this completed form to their Department  
Auxiliary Outreach Chairman by March 31, 2024.**

Auxiliary Name: \_\_\_\_\_ No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Department of: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the activity and/or event at which the Auxiliary partnered with another organization within their community. (E.g., flyers, brochures, social media posts, newsletters, e-newsletters, handouts, photos, links to videos, etc.)

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Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(signature)

April 30, 2024 - The Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman is to sign and send the completed Department winning entry form to National Auxiliary Outreach Ambassador Sandra Pinsonault for judging.

**AND**

April 30, 2024 - The Department Auxiliary Outreach Chairman must **email** VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters at [info@vfwauxiliary.org](mailto:info@vfwauxiliary.org) a total combined **list** of every Auxiliary in their Department that completed and submitted an entry form.

Forms sent directly to VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters will not be processed.