



Auxiliary Outreach



VFW Auxiliary Department of Maryland

With the intention of increasing our membership and promoting our Programs, we need to become a positive presence in our local communities.

Sara Manke, National Ambassador



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Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary

Department of Maryland



2025-2026 Auxiliary Outreach
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Auxiliary Outreach is a program focused on helping our communities. While helping our communities we can benefit by getting our auxiliary out in public. We become a positive presence in our local venues. This way we can change our community's perception of what we are and what we do. The VFW has had a reputation of bars and old war stories. Well, we're much more than that and we do much more than that. I'll repeat our VFW slogan – **“No One Does More for Veterans” and no one does more for the VFW than the auxiliary!**

It's time to rebrand our image and become a positive **FORCE** in the community. Along the way we can increase our membership and do even more for our veterans.

So how do we increase our community presence?

- By helping out. We want to help other organizations and local groups.
 - The goal is to volunteer WITH other groups.
 - We want to wear something auxiliary related: hat, shirt, pin, lanyard, and get people to notice us.
 - We want people to ask us about the auxiliary and we want people to say **“Wow, I want to support and join the VFW auxiliary so I can help veterans too!”**
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There are some rules for this program, but they're easy to follow:

- Work with a group not part of the VFW
- Donate your time not money
- Vote in your meeting to participate at an eligible event
- Wear auxiliary swag
- And remember that you are representing the VFVA, so smile!



What Counts



- 1. Helping serve meals at a homeless shelter**
- 2. Working with a local garden club to clean up flower beds in a local park.**
- 3. Manning a booth with a local cancer group for their charity event.**
- 4. Partnering with a local youth group to help collect donations for the local food pantry.**



What Doesn't Counts

- 1. Sending a check from your Auxiliary to support a cancer charity walk-a-thon.**
- 2. Helping usher and take collections at church.**
- 3. Paying for dinner for firefighters at the local fire station**
- 4. Donating the trophies for an award ceremony for local youth sports.**



Introducing your auxiliary to local organizations is a good way to start a partnership. Letting them know about the auxiliary and your willingness to help can open the door to future collaborations. Try using the introductory letter and the fact sheets included in this packet to approach local groups. This way you can join **FORCES** in the community and also get the VFWA name out there in public.

Use the report form included to let me know how you're doing. And don't forget to share on social media – another way to be visible. Use #AuxiliaryOutreach when you post. Remember to also fill out the National entry form to win a citation (and \$25) for “Most outstanding Auxiliary Outreach activity that is shared on social media using #Auxiliaryoutreach.” You can find this form on MALTA.

So let's get out in our communities and be a **FORCE** for our veterans!



Your Letterhead

Date

Name of Business or Organization:

Since 1914 the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary has worked to improve the lives of veterans, service members, their families, and our communities. Our programs and projects are designed to bring them services, information, and assistance in a variety of ways from scholarships to legislative support. The members of the Auxiliary of ***Name of Your Post*** VFW Post ***Number*** in ***City*** are proud to be a unit in this national service organization.

The members of Auxiliary ***Number*** are dedicated to helping the ***Name of Your Community*** community. Through our Auxiliary Outreach National Program, we work with other organizations also providing community support. We would like to offer our time and energy to work with the ***Name of Business or Organization***.

We are asking you to reach out to our Auxiliary when you need volunteers for one of your programs or projects. As part of our Auxiliary Outreach Program, Auxiliary ***Number*** would volunteer to work *for you* to help make *your* projects successful. Contact our Program Chairman:

Name

Phone

e-mail

The members of the Auxiliary to ***Name of Your Post*** VFW ***Number*** look forward to helping the ***Name of Business or Organization*** make the ***Name of Your Community*** area an even stronger community.

President's Signature

President

VFW Auxiliary ***Number***



Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary



Department of Maryland

We are the nation's oldest veterans' service organization auxiliary. For more than 100 years, we have been serving veterans, service members and their families in countless ways.

Millions of hours, millions of dollars and millions of tributes.

AMERICANISM

15,519 American and/or POW/MIA flags distributed

338 Certificates presented to businesses and citizens for flying the American Flag

VETERANS & FAMILY SUPPORT

124,209 Approximate number of veterans, service members and/or families assisted

\$154,752 Total monetary donations and/or value of donations and goods/services provided to veterans, service members and/or their families

SCHOLARSHIPS

\$10,223 Total mamount of scholarships awarded

Available Scholarships

- *Continuing Education – Ages 21+
- *Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest & 3-Dimensional Patriotic Art Contest – Grades 9-12
- *VFW Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Contest – Grades 9-12
- *VFW Patriot's Pen Essay Contest – Grades 6-8

AUXILIARY OUTREACH

7,234 Hours volunteered with other organizations not affiliated with the VFW or VFW Auxiliary

HOSPITAL

\$37,321 Total spent on all Hospital Program related items and projects

10,913 Hours volunteered in VA and non-VA medical facilities

LEGISLATIVE

12,209 Contacts made by members to legislators regarding veterans' issues

"BUDDY"® POPPY & NATIONAL HOME

36,945 "Buddy"® Poppies distributed within the Department of Maryland

39 Auxiliaries promoted the VFW National Home

YOUTH ACTIVITES

6,552 Youth Auxiliaries worked with

197 Youth groups Auxiliaries worked with

108 Youth groups recognized for supporting veterans

JOIN US

Our organization comprises nearly a half million members from diverse backgrounds who have a common connection: all are relatives of VFW-eligible veterans. *

Step- and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veterans.

**Eligible veteran does not have to be a VFW member.*



- Established in 1914, the VFW Auxiliary is the nation's oldest veteran's service organization auxiliary.
- Members of the VFW Auxiliary are the relatives of those who have served in overseas combat.
- There are more than 470,000 members representing all 50 states.
- We serve the veterans of this country and our communities in honor of the sacrifices and commitment of every man and woman who has served in uniform.
- It is our mission to assist the VFW in any way we can. We share a common goal of serving veterans, their families and our communities.
- We are a voice for veterans on Capital Hill; we are instrumental in assisting the VFW pass or block legislation that impacts veterans and their families.
- We are one of the top ten providers of volunteer hours in the VA medical system.
- Every year, members fundraise millions of dollars for charitable projects that benefit veterans and their families.
- We provide millions of dollars in scholarships for our nation's youth.
- We spread patriotism and educate our communities and our nation's youth about America's patriotic holidays and the American Flag.
- We spread the word about Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS), and promote military and veteran suicide awareness.



CONTACT US

www.vfwauxmd.org
www.vfwauxiliary.org



Auxiliary Outreach

2025-2026 Report Form

Kathy Williams, Dept. Chairman

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Sykesville, MD 21784

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Auxiliary Number _____ District _____ Month _____

Reporting Period: From _____ To _____

Chairman _____ Chairman Contact Info _____

TOTAL THIS REPORT - Hours _____ Mileage _____ # of Volunteers _____

Volunteer programs and projects NOT AFFILIATED with VFW or VFW Auxiliary Programs:

Number of organizations your auxiliary volunteered/partnered with this reporting period:

- a. First Responders # _____
- b. Churches # _____
- c. Towns # _____
- d. Disaster Relief (not donations) # _____
- e. Cancer, Heart, ALS Association, etc. # _____
- f. Other _____ # _____

Volunteer's Name	Project Group or Organization Name	Activity	Date of Project	Hours	Miles

Briefly describe your Auxiliary's Community Outreach involvement for this reporting period: