

EXTENSION & REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

Program Goals:

- Maintain and Strengthen Current Auxiliaries
- Present to Unaffiliated Posts
- Establish New Auxiliaries
- Recognize Red Flag Auxiliaries

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT'S THEME

"Stand Up, Speak Out"

NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S THEME

"Banding Together For Veterans"

There is a need for all members to **"Speak Out"** about this wonderful organization of ours! To educate members to **"Stand Up"** and keep our Auxiliaries strong and exciting? To know there is plenty of material for building our foundation, with plenty of information right at our fingertips! To build a strong foundation (the auxiliaries), education & recognition makes for a stronger structure (the districts). Establishing new auxiliaries for growth adding Unaffiliated Post (the Department of Florida), this makes for a Stronger Building of our Auxiliaries!

Chief of Staff's program was changed in 2021 to "Extension & Revitalization."

This better describe the work of the Chief of Staff who manages the program. This program along with the Mentoring program are equally important in developing & promoting leadership! As both programs go hand in hand ensuring the continuity of our organization through strong and healthy Auxiliaries The main goal of both programs is to ensure the legacy of our organization continues through strong, healthy Auxiliaries with members who are prepared to take over leadership. As your Department Chief of Staff, I will be here to be a consultant or educator, a counselor or listener and a cheerleader or advocate for your Auxiliary. As a consultant, I will offer educated and informed advise, as a counselor I will be listening to District Presidents, Auxiliary President and members who have questions or need clarification of resources or issues, and as a cheerleader I will be providing encouragement to celebrate success and to learn from failures.

To maintain and strengthen current Auxiliaries we "Stand Up" & we "Speak Out."

- Know what makes a healthy Auxiliary.
- Know what the 5 essentials of an Auxiliary are to:
 - Have at least ten (10) business meetings per year with at least five (5) members in good standing (which constitutes a quorum) for the transaction of business.
 - Have department and national dues paid for at least ten (10) members on or before February 1 of the current year.
 - Submit quarterly audits by trustees in accordance with the bylaws.
 - Elect, install, and report officers to National no later than June 30.
 - Bond the offices of President and Treasurer by August 31.
- Know the A, B, Cs of the resources available and how to use them:
 - *Healthy Auxiliary Tool Kit* which includes:
 - A. Healthy Auxiliary Checklist
 - B. Healthy Auxiliary Membership Questionnaire
 - C. Auxiliary Meeting Clinic
 - D. Communications Phone/Text Tree

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E. Good Job Certificate

F. VFW Auxiliary Mentoring Guide

➤ *Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundations, we are “**Strengthening.**”*

- Know the danger signs and what can happen to an unhealthy Auxiliary when they are unable to meet the 5 essentials of Auxiliary as listed above.
 - **Suspension**
 - Is not a negative position, it means that work needs to be done to get the Auxiliary where it needs to be.
 - Is used to give the Auxiliary a chance to fulfill their duties and continue with their mission of serving veterans, service members and their families.
 - Is when a team is appointed by Department President to mentor, educate and listen to bring the Auxiliary back to health.
 - **Cancellation**
 - Can only be made by National President, with or without recommendation of Department President
 - Notification will come from National Headquarters and will allow ample time to close, or move members to another Auxiliary.
 - Must not be started before notification from National Headquarters.
 - **Consolidation**
 - When two (2) or more VFW Posts consolidate, and the Auxiliaries affiliated with the Posts are notified of said consolidation. Should not be started until the official communication from National Secretary is received. Results in issuance of new charters.

Present to Unaffiliated Posts

- Unaffiliated Posts are VFW Posts without an Auxiliary
- Receive permission to address the Post members.
- Choose a positive, knowledgeable member to speak to the Post Commander
- Know and use the tools available for presentations “*Why Having an Auxiliary Can Boost Your Post*” is available as Power point or PDF
 - o “*Top Ten Reasons for your Post to Have an Auxiliary*” flyer.

Establish New Auxiliaries

- VFW Post must vote by 2/3 majority to have an Auxiliary.
- Department President appoints official organizer.
- A minimum of 15 eligible applicants must be on application for the Charter.
- **Final step** for a new Auxiliary is that we as a department must welcome them. We will present the Auxiliary with a Department Charter kit (to enhance the National Charter Kit), distribute welcome packets to each member of the new auxiliary, and recognize the Auxiliary and members in promotions, Department website, social media, and newsletters. We will not institute them and let them go.

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DEPARTMENT AWARDS

AWARDS FOR MEMBERS

1. A special award to one (1) Auxiliary member in each of the four (4) membership classes who most assists in nurturing/strengthening/revitalizing a struggling Auxiliary and utilizing *Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation* in their efforts.

AWARDS FOR AUXILIARIES

1. **Citation to each Auxiliary who uses the *Heathy Auxiliary Tool Kit* and /or *Building on the Auxiliary Foundations* to strengthen the Auxiliary.**

NATIONAL AWARDS

1. \$25 VFW Store gift certificate to one member in each of the four Conferences who assist the Department Chief of Staff in nurturing/strengthening a struggling Auxiliary and utilized *Building on the VFW Auxiliary Foundation* in their efforts. \$25 VFW Store gift certificates will be mailed directly to the winning members from National Headquarters after the National Convention.

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