



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN
COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM
JULY 2021

Something new is being added to the program this year.

We can all agree the First Responders of our communities, some of whom have been working around the clock during the pandemic, give so much to our communities and deserve a helping hand. This fall marks the 20th Anniversary of 9/11, and to commemorate that date we are adding the initiative of volunteering with a group of or for an organization that supports First Responders. Refer to ideas below to get started planning or participating in events, projects or programs within your community to support and/or recognize First Responders. **HELP FIRST RESPONDERS!!!**



This program encompasses projects NOT AFFILIATED WITH THE VFW OR THE VFW AUXILIARY PROGRAMS. THE COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM IS WHEN YOU, THE MEMBER VOLUNTEERS WITH ANOTHER ORGANIZATION. THIS IS A DONATION OF TIME, NOT IN-KIND OR MONEY. IT IS ALL ABOUT REACHING OUT TO YOUR COMMUNITY AS A GROUP OR AN INDIVIDUAL. HERE ARE SOME WAYS TO VOLUNTEER:

- Volunteer at your safety fair, city picnic, your church bazaar, or animal shelter.
- Volunteer at your local food bank, soup kitchen, food pantry or homeless shelter.
- Volunteer to help your elderly neighbors by cutting grass, home maintenance, make a meal, clean the house, rake leaves, wash windows, help organize their belongings, read the newspaper to them, call to check up on them or drop by for a short visit.
- Volunteer at schools, tutor children, all Girl and Boy Scouts troops, read to kids at the library, help at after school programs.
- Plant flowers in the park or plant a tree for Arbor Day.
- Volunteer for fundraisers like bowling, car wash, 5k, Fill the Boot.
- Volunteer for highway/neighborhood beautification, assisting individuals with special needs.

I know there are a lot of elderly members, ladies and gentlemen who cannot participate. They can go to the neighbor and read the newspaper to someone who has difficulty reading, visit another lonely person on a regular basis or just pick up the phone and call a few people every couple of days and check up on old friends.

Partner with your community by hosting a “meet and greet” for First Responders, Firemen, Police. First Responders Appreciation Day is October 28th. Reach out to your community through your town newspaper. Have a table with VFW-VFWA grab and go information kits. By wearing your uniform, sash, pin or hat you will be recognized and they will know who you are when they see you at the next function in the community while volunteering. DO THIS WEARING YOUR VFWA LOGO.

Presidents, please keep track of your members and their time spent on every project. No money is reportable. This program runs on volunteerism only. Take a spiral notebook to each meeting and pass it around and have the members fill in what they did. 3 columns: No names will be needed for awards...

of hours spent
7

of members involved
5

Activity
Baseball game/worked concession

Wear your LOGO!

Look in the National Program Book for National Awards.

These hours and projects worked will be on the year-end reports. The main thing I am asking you to do is take pictures of your members volunteering throughout the year. Wear your VFWA LOGO! A photo collage will be asked for in the year-end reports.

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