

American Legion Auxiliary

Department of Wisconsin

Unit Community Service Plan of Action 2009-2010

Beverly J. Tutas, Department Chairman

Purpose: The purpose of the Community Service Committee is to work to improve and strengthen conditions in your local community where the Auxiliary Unit is located to make it a better place to live by providing volunteer leadership, support, and help. **EVERY UNIT** is expected to carry out or cooperate in at least one project for community betterment each year.

Unit Level Objectives

1. Objective: Participate in the Department of Wisconsin 2009-2010 special project to hold a Blood Drive.

Action Steps:

- a. Plan a Blood Drive that has not been held before if possible and at an alternate time when others are being held so as to increase the volume of blood drawn.
  - b. If a unit is unable to sponsor a drive alone, partner with another organization for help or join them and help in their drawing.
  - c. Publicize the drawing extensively in your local newspapers and radio, church bulletins, and local business.
  - d. For detailed information contact Laura Schuetzler at the Blood Center of Wisconsin cell (414) 940-4623 or the Department Chairman, Beverly Tutas (262) 284-2855.
2. Objective: Work with the National Security Committee to schedule a Community Emergency Response Team(CERT) Train-the Trainer course. The purpose is to prepare our members to act as our emergency management resource.

Action Steps:

- a. Partner with community organizations to train volunteers.
- b. Customize the CERT training to fit your own community.
- c. Suggest use of your American Legion Post as a training site.
- d. Contact local news media: TV, radio and newspapers announcing the training.

3. Objective: Observe Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service by providing service to our veterans & to military families of deployed troops.

Action Steps:

- a. Work with other community organizations to stimulate awareness of MLK Day and its purpose and the responsibility of the community.
- b. Distribute information regarding MLK Day.
- c. Publicize the planned community service activities such as delivering meals and assembling care packages for troops.

4. Objective: Carry out the Army's Community Covenant Program.

Action Steps:

- a. Ask your unit to participate in ceremonies to honor service personnel and their families.
- b. Provide refreshments for these ceremonies.
- c. Contact local media to promote your activities.

You can use other projects to carry out service in your community such as food banks, homeless shelters, senior citizen centers, libraries, adopt a highway, loaning of medical equipment, to mention a few.

Keep track of and record all of your Community Service volunteer hours and monies spent as there are Community Service Awards to be presented and these services should be reported on your 2010 Annual Reports due May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2010.