



American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin

Department Community Service Plan of Action 2011-2012

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Purpose: Mobilize the American Legion Family, the veteran and military community, and general population of the community to provide service directed to veterans, active duty service members, and their families.

Unit Level Objective:

1. Develop, implement and monitor community service activities that aid veterans, active-duty service members and their families while positioning the American Legion Auxiliary as a one-stop-shop organization to assist them in meeting their needs.

Action Steps:

- a. Contact Veteran Service Officer, County Health & Human Resources, Family Readiness Groups, and look within your own Unit and Post membership for veterans, active duty service members or military families that need help in taking care of their home; i.e., meals, babysitting, mow lawn, rake lawn, shovel snow, drive to dr. appointments, fix electrical, plumbing; adopt a deployed service member's family in the community; fill Hero Packs.
- b. After a veteran, active duty service member or military family has been located, contact them to learn of their needs.
- c. Contact the American Legion, other community organizations to see who may be willing to donate time and talent to help with the families' needs. Match the needs of the family with the talents and abilities of your Post and Unit membership and with community organization members.
- d. Arrange a date/time for the day of service. Publicize this as an American Legion Auxiliary project.
- e. Thank the community members, American Legion Family members and ALA members who make the day a success.

Unit Level Objective:

1. Develop, implement and monitor community service activities that promote economic security for veterans, active-duty service members, their families and the homeless veteran while encouraging the public to assist in this endeavor.

Action Steps:

- a. Veteran Homelessness Prevention and Response-Plan community service activities to aid veterans, active duty service members, and their families who are homeless or in danger of becoming homeless. Activities might include regular meal preparation for a homeless veteran program; collect new or gently used clothes for homeless veterans; assemble hygiene and comfort kits for homeless veterans; organize a standdown; offer personal financial management, relocation assistance and tax filing services
- b. Job fairs- sponsor or organize a job fair to connect veterans and their families for employment opportunities.

c. Department or Unit Innovative Activity-Plan a community service activity of your choosing, taking into account the criteria that follows: (1) The activity is unique and/or meets the need of low-income or homeless veterans, active-duty service members, and/or their family members in your geographic area that would otherwise go unmet. (2) The activity will aid/help low-income or homeless veterans, active-duty service members, and/or their family members.

All Department Award winners will be forwarded to Division and National.

American Legion Auxiliary Department of Wisconsin Community Service Awards 2011-2012

Unit Award

A citation will be presented to a Unit in each Division with the most outstanding overall promotion of the Community Service Program during the 2011-2012 administrative year. Each entry must include at least two of the designated areas of special emphasis. Entry must be in narrative form not to exceed 1,000 words. Photos of program and projects are encouraged. The Unit name and address, name of the Department and a completed copy of the annual report form must be included. Entry must be postmarked by May 1, 2012, and sent to the Department Community Service Chairman.

Operation Impact Award

A citation will be presented to a Unit in each Division with the most outstanding promotion of a monthly Community Service Program. A minimum of 10 months must be covered. The projects must follow the Plan of Action and be mission-related. Each entry must include a monthly breakdown of program, topic of each program, how many attended program and results from that program. Photos are encouraged of each event. Each entry must be in narrative form, not to exceed 1,000 words. The Unit name, Department and address, Unit Chairman's name and contact phone number must be included on cover page. Cover page does not count in the total word count. Each entry must be postmarked by May 1, 2012, and sent to the Department Community Service Chairman.

Senior Volunteer of the Year Award

A senior member from each Division will be honored for outstanding service in at least one activity emphasized in the Plan of Action. To be eligible for the award, volunteer service must be provided during the 2011-2012 administrative year. The application must be fully completed with required certification and a narrative of 300-500 words completed by the applicant. Photos are encouraged. Senior entry must be postmarked by May 1, 2012, and sent to the Department Community Service Chairman.

Junior Volunteer of the Year Award

A Junior member from each Division will be honored for outstanding community service in at least one activity emphasized in the Plan of Action. To be eligible for the award, the volunteer service must be provided during the 2011-2012 administrative year. The application must be fully completed with required certification, and a narrative of 300-500 words must be completed by the applicant. Photos are encouraged. Junior entry must be postmarked by May 1, 2012 and sent to the Department Community Service Chairman.