

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
DEPARTMENT OF WEST VIRGINIA
PROGRAMS ACTION PLAN
COMMUNITY SERVICE

Peggy Swartz, Chairman
Community Service
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The Community Service program promotes the American Legion Auxiliary's visibility within our localities through our commitment to community, state and nation. You may go to communityservice@ALAforVeterans.org

Become visible within your community as a link to the veteran community. Get involved in community service projects to bring awareness of our mission to support veterans, servicemembers, their families and the community

As a Member

1. Always wear your American Legion apparel or pin while volunteering in the community, it reinforces our brand promise by telling people who we are, what we do, and why we matter.

Note: If you are ordering anything with the ALA name or emblem from a source other than Emblem Sales, remember that a request first must be submitted through your department headquarters to National Headquarters for approval by the national secretary. Contact your unit for more information on this process

2. Reach out to local ministers and first responders to indicate your willingness to be a designated responder for veteran families in need. Be sure to keep a list of veteran resources handy so you will be ready.
3. Get involved with your neighbors and those outside our Legion family by volunteering at your local library, food pantry, domestic violence shelter, senior citizen center, assisted living centers, nursing homes.
4. Represent the Auxiliary as a member of local community boards and committees.
5. Volunteer with your local Meals on Wheels to deliver meals on days when they are typically closed (i.e. Christmas and Thanksgiving).

As a Unit

1. Volunteer to organize or assist with your community Veterans Day observance.
2. Organize and participate in service projects for veterans, servicemembers, their families and local community programs on ALA suggested days of service.

3. Register service projects on websites, community forums and social media to attract other community members to participate in your service projects.
4. Volunteer for local service projects and causes (walks, special events, etc.). Work with your post home to offer space and their participation in local service projects and causes.
5. Sponsor and participate in activities at local libraries, senior citizen centers, assisted living centers, nursing homes, service projects and causes (walks, special events, etc.).
6. Attend and represent the Auxiliary at special celebration events in the community such as holiday parades, grand openings of community facilities and community leader recognition ceremonies.

Community Service Reporting

Mid-Year Reports

Mid-Year reports reflect the program work of units in the department, and are intended as an opportunity for mid-year correction. Each Unit chairman is asked to submit a report to the Department Chairman by December 14, 2018, including all the Community Service Project your unit has participated in, type of participation, hours and monies involved. This will help your Department Chairman to get her report to the National Chairman.

Annual Reports

Reflect the program work of units in the department, and may result in a national award for participants if award requirements are met. Each Unit Chairman is asked to submit a report by April 20, 2019, which included to the Department Awards Form, a narrative report, and the National Cover Sheet. Pictures may be included with this report.

As part of your narrative report, please include answers to the following questions:
Did members volunteer for or organize service projects for any of the ALA suggested days of service? If so which days were most successful for offering service projects?
Did you have any challenges?

What types of community service activities and/or projects were done in your department?

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