

American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of North Dakota

## **Programs Action Plan Cover Letter**

### **Education**

I am pleased to again be your Education Chairman for the Department of North Dakota in 2020-2021. The following letter is the same as last year, but the world we live in today is not the same as last year. I know that this has been a particularly challenging year so far due to the COVID-19 pandemic. You may have to think 'outside-the box' while maintaining 'inside-the-house' accommodations to accomplish your Auxiliary goals. Even though you may be frustrated by the things we cannot do, try to focus on the new ways we can do things. Challenge yourself to become educated on innovative ways to reach veterans and others we serve. Talk with Auxiliary units via phone or video chat to see what they are doing. Stay connected through telephone, social media, email, and the post office. I am confident that we will persevere and become stronger coming out the other side of these strange times.

I have been an Auxiliary member since 2011 and am eligible through both of my grandfathers. One has gone to the beyond but was a proud WWII Navy veteran. The other, still going strong at 97, is a proud WWII Army veteran. I have several other family members that served during WWII, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, the Gulf War and Operation Iraqi Freedom. I am so proud of all that have served in the military to give our country its continued freedom.

I am passionate about education as I believe it helps open a multitude of doors for people in a variety of ways. Education in any form can help people drastically change their circumstances. I am grateful to the American Legion Auxiliary for its continued mission to provide education programs and support for our nation's students and educators. The special emphasis placed on programs for military and family members of military is truly extraordinary. As we continue to support our education system, we will strengthen the lives of those that will soon become the core decision makers of our country.

The following pages show a recommendation of education ideas for the Department of North Dakota.

Using the National Programs Action Plan as a guideline, I have developed a plan that I hope represents the needs of our Department. Each Department may have differing needs and ideas, but we can still work as a whole to serve our veterans, their families, and our communities.

Please know that I do not intend to overwhelm you as a member, unit, or district. You may not be able to complete any or all the recommendations, but that is ok. Have a goal of completing one task well and reporting on it and use that as motivation for moving forward.

I will have letters in unit mailings and an article in '*The Message*' with more information on how you can help strengthen education and scholarship programs within the American Legion Auxiliary.

Please feel free to contact me with questions, suggestions, and opportunities. My contact information is included below. Go forth and serve with honesty and enthusiasm! Please stay safe, and don't forget to reflect on the things that truly matter in your life.

Shauna Dubuque  
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