

Greetings Auxiliary Members,

This article is based on mid-year reporting from North Dakota Auxiliary units. North Dakota unit members were responsive to calls for action regarding specific veteran-related legislation.

North Dakota Auxiliary members do not shrink from their commitment to our veterans and their families. Many served as poll workers in their communities and some wrote letters and made phone calls to their state officials and Congressmen. Our members were armed with information from the American Legion and followed print, television, and radio media regarding issues impacting veterans not only in North Dakota but across the nation. With a highly contested national election and some controversial issues at the local and state levels, Auxiliary members seemed to find it more important than ever to make their voices heard and their votes count in 2020.

North Dakota units supported programs that assisted children of deployed military personnel including the 10 X 10 education program. Units raised funds for various American Legion Auxiliary programs such as Girls State, helped with Honor Flights, and supported Welcome Home events honoring deployed military returning home. Units also financially supported veteran-specific programs and donated personal care items and move-in baskets for homeless veterans.

North Dakota units raised funds for Department scholarships, including the Education program and Past Presidents Parley nursing scholarships. Units will soon receive and judge dozens of applications for national Auxiliary scholarships.

North Dakota unit members and members of their families serve on school boards, advisory panels, in the North Dakota State Legislature, and countless other community boards and counsels. Collectively, North Dakota unit members are a productive and significant segment of our society. I am enormously proud to be part of this amazing organization.

Marcy Schmidt, Department Legislative Chairman