



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY • DEPARTMENT OF NORTH DAKOTA

Coleen Hauf, Department Community Service Chairman (2021-2022)

1124 13th St NW., Minot, ND 58703-2066

Phone: 701-340-6452 (cell), Email: communityservice@ndala.org

October 2022

2021-2022 Community Service Program

The American Legion Auxiliary is well-positioned, due to our history and reputation, to mobilize our communities in support of veterans, servicemembers and their families. Units and departments should closely examine the needs of their communities and organize programs either of their own initiative or in cooperation with The American Legion or other organizations to cultivate a patriotic community. Cultivating patriotism in the community involves acknowledging our country's military history, saying "thank you" to veterans and servicemembers and supporting with practical and tangible services and supports the servicemembers, veterans and their families who have sacrificed for our freedom.

I encourage all units to sponsor events that support your local communities and then write an article and send pictures to 'toot' your horns. I also recommend that you visit the National website at: alaforveterans.org. You will find a treasure trove of information.

Thank you for taking the time to share a favorite story about the positive impact you or someone you know has had on our mission! Your story may inspire another member into service. It also helps us tell the world who we are, what we do, and why we matter.

Key Program Statements

- Making our communities better places in which to live is something Auxiliary members strive for each day across this country.
- A major outreach program of the Auxiliary since 1926, Community Service also demonstrates our longstanding commitment to supporting the work of American Legion posts and other organizations in providing assistance with blood drives, first aid and CPR training, child safety programs, support for women in shelters, and disaster and emergency preparedness programs.

How to Mobilize Community Support for Those Who Serve

Blue Star Salute:

With history traced back to the World Wars, a Blue Star Service Banner signifies that a loved one is serving in the Armed Forces. Each blue star represents one family member serving. Banners are available with up to five stars. If the servicemember is killed or dies while deployed, a smaller golden star is placed over the blue star.

Blue Star Banners can be purchased through Emblem Sales. Blue Star Banners can be presented to family members with deployed loved ones year-round without ceremony, or you can hold a Blue Star Salute. The American Legion offers a comprehensive guide to planning a Blue Star Salute event as an Armed Forces Day Celebration (the third Saturday in May) on their website. This guide includes a sample timeline and schedule, talking points and remarks, as well as public relations samples. Certificates for servicemembers and family members also can be downloaded from the event planning page of The American Legion's website. Many of these certificate templates recognize the efforts of the entire Legion Family.

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National Community Service Awards:

Unit Award: Most Outstanding Unit Community Service Program (per division)

- Deadline June 1
- All department entries must be sent by the department chairman to their national division chairman postmarked by 5 p.m. EST on the deadline listed above. Members should follow instructions from their department.

Department Award: Best Department Community Service Program (per division)

- Deadline June 1
- All department entries must be sent by the department chairman to their national division chairman postmarked by 5 p.m. EST on the deadline listed above. Members should follow instructions from their department.

May God Bless You and Keep You Safe.

Colleen Hauf, Department Community Service Chairman

For more information on how you can sponsor a Community Service event in your community visit **alaforveterans.org**.