



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY CHAPLAINS

PROGRAM ENGAGEMENT PLAN 2026-2027

CONTINUING THE MISSION OF AUXILIARY SERVING HEROES

A Unit, District or Junior Chaplain is one of the most fulfilling offices of any organization.

Our Department President Linda Knoblach-Harkness's theme is "Mission Auxiliary Serving Heroes". Let us begin by giving our Service to God as described in our preamble "For God and Country". As we move forward, remember to stay on task with our "Mission". As you serve, remember that our heroes are not only veterans, active-duty military, first responders, or children and youth. Our heroes are people we see in everyday life. We should be available and remember that God is our guide. We can Be the One who makes a difference in someone's life.

There are many ways you can help your members in good times as well as troubled times. It is important to show compassion to all as you serve in this capacity. Be prepared to be there for others, to visit with them, pray with them or simply sit and listen to them.

1. Open and close all meetings with prayer and/or inspirational thoughts. All prayers must be non-denominational. Examples of resources: Chaplain's Prayer Book, American Legion Auxiliary National News, Reflections Page which is located in our National Magazine, and prayers given to you by others or create your own. Be prepared to offer prayer at any unit, post or community function.
2. Send Get Well, Birthday, Thinking of You, Congratulations and Sympathy cards when appropriate.
3. Include your Juniors in all ceremonies if possible.
4. Staying connected with Gold Star Families and remembering them on holidays.
5. Volunteering at community projects
6. Drape the Charter in the event of death of a Unit member. (Chaplains Ceremonies Manual)
7. Hold a Memorial Service for deceased members at the District Constitutional Conference
8. You may be called upon to hold a Memorial Service for a Unit Member by their family members.
9. Don't be afraid to **"Be the One"**. Always show grace and dignity to families in the event of Veteran Suicide.
10. Send the Deceased Member Form to both District Chaplain and Department Chaplain (form is found on www.alafl.org), then Quick Links, Forms and Resources, Unit Forms,

then Deceased Member Form. **Do Not Wait** until the end of the year to send names, please send daily or monthly. For the 2027 Memorial Service cutoff for names is May 31, 2027. Names received after that date will be in the following year's Memorial Service.

11. Promote and Participate in the Four Chaplains or to donate go to: <https://fourchaplains.org/>
12. Visit sick members in Veterans Hospitals and Nursing Homes or at their individual homes. Give them a Grace Card or inspirational poem, give a hug if possible and always have a smile. Ask if it is okay to say a prayer with them before you leave.
13. Assist with the Initiation Ceremony of new members if your Unit conducts one.

AWARDS:

Compile a Prayer Book for your Unit, District or Junior President.

If you desire, you may also submit it for the "Mae Nally" Department award presented at Convention. This award is for Units only. Remember to keep all prayers non-denominational. Please follow **ALL** rules for your Prayer Book which are listed in the Unit Handbook Guide. Prayer Books must reach Department Chaplain thirty (30) days before Convention, which is May 27, 2027. You will need a "Fly Page" with specific information, then the next will be a page for the first section marked "Prayers" followed by the prayers you wish to submit, followed by a page marked "Devotional Thoughts" (rules the same as first section "prayers". On the last page be sure to list names alphabetically by last name of the people who have submitted the Prayers and Devotional Thoughts. Remember to center your prayers and/or devotional thoughts (Vertically & Horizontally) on the page. Be sure to look in your Unit Guide for all the specifics including appearance and the judging process. If you have questions, please reach out to me!!

For God and Country while continuing our **Mission Auxiliary Serving Heroes**

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#MASH

Fun fact: postage stamp prices are increasing again to nearly \$1.00 per stamp, but I found a website that has "Forever" stamps at an extremely low price. I have purchased from them, they are legitimate. I paid \$32.99 for 100 stamps!!! Their site is: www.thecheapstamps.com