

# VFW Auxiliary Family Freedom Festival

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## **What is it?**

The Family Freedom Festival is a family-friendly, all-ages opportunity for your Auxiliary to:

- Show your community what the Post/Auxiliary offers; how you positively impact your community.
- Promote patriotism in your community.
- Connect families of veterans and active-duty military with Auxiliaries.
- Create awareness of and support for legislative initiatives.
- Increase membership for the Post/Auxiliary.
- Provide youth with scholarship and volunteer opportunities.
  - Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest, Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, etc.
- Boost the number of volunteers at the Post, medical facilities, for special events/projects and for veterans and active-duty military families (yard/house work, etc.)
- Include an aspect of every National Program in one event.

## **What are we supposed to do?**

The goal of the Family Freedom Festival is to increase Auxiliary program participation and community awareness of, and involvement with, our National Programs. It is an event Auxiliaries of all sizes can implement in their communities.

- Auxiliaries are encouraged to host a Family Freedom Festival sometime during the Program Year.
  - Participating Auxiliaries will select their event's time, day and place.
- Involve every National Program for easy reporting and participation fulfillment.
- If you don't have a Post Home, consider hosting your Auxiliary's Family Freedom Festival at a local park, community center or other gathering place.
- Review the Steps to Participate and Event Information prior to your event.
- Use publicity materials within the Family Freedom Festival Tool Kit to promote your event.

## **Family Freedom Festival Tool Kit**

The Family Freedom Festival Tool Kit includes what you need to know and do to host a successful event.

- Steps to Participate
- Event Ideas (Combine two or more ideas/events to increase attendance).
- What to Do at the Event
- Event Suggestions (Add a few of these to your event; no need to have them all!)
- Logo for Event Promotion
- Sample Social Media Posts
- Sample Press Release

*We look forward to hearing how your Auxiliary implements a Family Freedom Festival in your community!*