

MENTORING FOR LEADERSHIP

Department of New Mexico



Mentor
Support Guide
Relationships Inspire
Feedback Observe Listen
Coach Nurture Smile Teach Educate

December 2023

Promotional #4

TO: Francine Cornish, National Ambassador
Beth Miller, Department President

FROM: Jeanette D Garcia, Department Chairman

Merry Christmas! Can you believe it; in just a few weeks, it is going to be Christmas. The year is flying by. This will be a great time to bring the community in and start to talk to them about the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, while at the same time you can mentor other new members.

While you talk to the community have a few of the new members with you so they can shadow you. They can listen to you as you provide information about the Auxiliary to a possible new member.

Listening is a big part of Mentoring.

1. Listen to hear what others are saying. Their tone of voice can tell you exactly how they are feeling and if what you are saying is getting through to them.
2. Eyes can express so much. You can see excitement or you can see glossy-eyed (deer in the headlights). Make sure what is being discussed is engaging and upbeat. Try not to be monotoned, because members and new members will not want to listen.
3. When speaking, as a mentor, pay attention to the members and who you are speaking to. Emotions can run high when discussing certain matters. Don't be negative, provide information that is positive. If the conversation starts to go in a negative direction, redirect the conversation with a positive response.
4. As a Mentor, you are providing information and guidance due to your experiences in the Auxiliary. As stated above there are times when negativity has turned members away and

they in turn have not come back to a meeting or to help with events. Help members see that their experiences will be positive and help to make any negatives into a positive.

5. Expectations for any new member in an organization are mostly, "I don't know what to expect, this is my first meeting." As new members come in or when speaking to a possible new member, acknowledge that you understand that they are hesitant, but that the members are excited to be in the organization, look at the programs and how we help Veterans and their Families and be their support.
6. Every member in the organization has a mind of their own. WE have to be very cognizant of those around us and how people speak and act. Our egos can help or hurt us and others. Bring out the positive in everyone....

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email or call.

Loyally,

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Department Chairman

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