

Youth Activities Department of New Mexico Promotional #3 November 2023

TO: Joyce Caldwell, National Ambassador Beth Miller, Department President

FROM: Dominique C. Garcia, Department Chairman

Hello Department of New Mexico,

Back in the past we had the Jr. Girls Unit, it was just like the Ladies Auxiliary (that's what it was called back then when we had the Jr. Girls). We held meetings, fundraisers and worked on our own programs. It was a group from the ages of 5-16, to me it was a way of getting us prepared to become an auxiliary member. It was a way to show the youth about Patriotism, the Flag, Community Service, and our Veterans. It was a great Unit for the youth. I was one of the last Jr. Girls President before it was removed from the Ladies Auxiliary (again that's what it was called back when the program was around).

Being a member of the Jr. Girls Unit helped shape me into becoming an Auxiliary Member, leading up to Auxiliary President, and Department President. I honestly loved being in the Jr. Girls Unit and trying to run a meeting, I can remember people always saying how nice it was to see the youth helping our veterans. Once the Unit was closed, we lost a lot of the youth and it made it harder to work with the youth and get them involved with the VFW and Auxiliary.

This is why it is important to work with our youth. In MALTA, under Resources and Youth Activities there are many resources that you can use to recruit the youth, talk to our youth and to help them and you become familiar with the Youth Activities Program. We need our Youth for the future of this organization. Not only in the auxiliary, but to have them enlist in our Armed Services. Let us teach them what it means to be Patriotic and to be proud to be an American.

If you have any questions feel free to reach out to me, phone: 505-974-0018

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Thank you,

Dominique C. Garcia Department Youth Activities Chairman