

Mentoring for Leadership Promotion #1 | July 2023
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It is my honor and pleasure to have been appointed Mentoring for Leadership Ambassador for 2023-2024. I am President of Brigadier General Charles E. McGee VFW Auxiliary 341 in the Department of Maryland.

My VFW Auxiliary experience began in 1988 when my husband Joseph, a U.S. Marine who served in Vietnam, and I were encouraged to join the Department of the District of Columbia. We became the Commander and President of the newly-formed Woodridge Post and Auxiliary 9755. Since our Post and Auxiliary included all new members, we noticed how dedicated the Department was to veterans and community issues. They warmly welcomed us and spent time instructing us on the duties and requirements of the organization.

The mentoring we received and the leadership we observed encouraged us to accomplish our goal, to support our veterans. I was appointed to many chairmanships at the Department level and served as Department President. I was appointed Eastern Conference Chairmen twice, National Director of Publicity and Legislative Director. I was also elected to the National Council #4, for the Department of D.C. and Delaware.

All this was made possible by those dedicated members who made the effort to know and understand VFW and Auxiliary and pass that knowledge on. In other words, they were great mentors.

The Department of the District of Columbia merged with the Department of Maryland in 2017 and I became a member of B/G Charles E. McGee Auxiliary 341. My son Anthony served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves and my son Joseph has four wonderful children, including 6-year-old triplets. Both sons are members of the Auxiliary.

The VFW Auxiliary will always need good leadership. Through the Mentoring for Leadership Program, we have the tools to provide support and encouragement to our future leaders. I look forward to working together with you for the success of this important Program.

The best mentorship Programs are based on a foundation of trust, respect and open and honest communication.

[Time to Build Your Mentoring Program](#)



As you begin this Program Year, consider conducting a mini workshop to identify potential mentors and mentees. Program Chairman and Line Officers are a good start as mentors. However, be open to any member who volunteers. Mentees can be new or long-standing members.

Mentors can use a combination of mentoring types, such as traditional one-on-one, group and virtual. Be creative since this depends on the participants and the goals.

[What To Do Next](#)

Choose your mentoring activities; here are a couple of suggestions:

- Regular scheduled meetups to discuss specific things such the Ritual and Bylaws, perhaps after the regular Auxiliary meeting
- Casual mentoring activities which could include offering advice and answering questions, maybe during the Good of the Order
- Well planned activities can make the mentoring experience more enjoyable and help to establish goals and objectives early on.

Take Advantage of the VFW Auxiliary Mentoring Resources

Use the valuable information and tools located behind MALTA member Resources, This will help you get started and provide resources to aid you during the year.

From the **Mentoring at VFW Auxiliary: Relationship Building for the Future**

“Start each relationship from our common ground, support for our veterans, and build on it with time and patience and caring.”