**AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary**

**Department of Michigan**

**LOCAL 2ND VICE PRESIDENT INSTRUCTIONS**

#1 As the 2nd Vice President of your local or District, you are the Child Welfare Chairman.

#2 You are an aide to the Auxiliary President. Please learn the duties of the President and First Vice President in case you need to serve in their absence.

#3 Child Welfare is an activity that benefits children only. Worchid (War-Kid) is a program for children of a deceased veteran. The Veteran may have died while in service or after.

#4 Read the bulletins you receive from Department or National Officers on the National and Department websites. They contain information which can assist you with your program. Share the information with your members by including it in the reports you give at your meetings.

#5 Set up a notebook to record all work done by your Auxiliary members. It is much easier to fill out a report if you have an accurate record. Or, you may wish to download the form and start filling it in monthly

#6 All projects should have prior approval of the Auxiliary, be recorded in the minutes and be performed in the name of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary.

#7 One copy of your Mid-year Report is mailed to the Department 2nd Vice President, postmarked or e-mailed no later than November 5th of the current year. File a report even if you have “*Nothing To Report At This Time*”. One copy of your annual (final) report should be mailed or e-mailed to the Department 2nd Vice President postmarked no later than May 5th of the current year.

#8 Worchid programs/projects are reported on the Child Welfare Report.

#9 Read the Donors Rules carefully and follow them to qualify for awards at the Department Convention. Donor Rules are sent out in a Convention Digest bulletin each March by the Department. They are sent to the local President. Check with her for a copy and have them handy when filing your reports.

#10 To apply for the Penrickton Award, you must complete the Penrickton Award Form and file it with your annual (final) Child Welfare Report. This form is also found in the Convention Digest bulletin.

#11 A Project sheet and a Service Report Form are attached to these Instructions. More copies can be downloaded from the Auxiliary Dept. website.

SUGGESTIONS FOR CHILD WELFARE PROJECTS

1**.** The Department Child Welfare project is Penrickton Center For Blind Children.

2. The National program is John Tracy Clinic which is for families with hearing impaired children.

3. AADAA Program, AMVETS Against Drug and Alcohol Abuse is sponsored by the Department of Michigan AMVETS. You can work with your AMVETS to get the message to children about the dangers of Drug and Alcohol Abuse. Explain the contest rules and pass out entry forms. Send your local and/or District winners to the Department of Michigan AMVETS. The program is open to children from Kindergarten through 12th grade. The theme changes each year, so make sure you have the current years’ theme. The application for this program is located on the Dept. Auxiliary website.

4. Schools save Boxtops for Education, cancelled stamps, arts and crafts supplies, yarn, used greeting cards, empty ink cartridges, etc. Check with your local schools first to determine whether or not they accept any of these items before you start collecting so you can focus on their greatest needs.

5. Volunteer to help with a Scout Troop, Boys and Girls Club, Little league, etc.

6. Sponsor playground activities or donate playground equipment.

7. Jr. AMVETS – help them do functions or create functions.

8. Support the Make a Wish Foundation or the Special Wish Foundation

9. Be a Big Sister

10. Send a child to camp

11. Volunteer as a room mother, lunch aid or volunteer to read stories to the children at a school or learning center.

12. Develop a partnership with your County Department of Health and Human Services Community Resource Coordinator. This person is always in need of organizations who are willing to help provide items for needy and/or foster children. They will greatly appreciate any projects in which your Auxiliary would like to become involved.

The list is endless when it comes to what you can do to assist a child.

April is John Tracy Clinic month. The purpose of this special month:

 (a) To give our members a better understanding of our National programs through scheduled special activities and events.

 (b) To obtain publicity in local newspapers, radio and television stations to make the community aware of the support we give to this programs.

 ( c) To make an extra effort to raise funds for this program.

INFORMATION ON THE WORCHID PROGRAM

#1 To promote and to ensure that children of deceased veterans are NOT forgotten. A Worchid is a child or young adult under 18 years of age and whose parent (father or mother) is deceased either while in military service or after leaving the service.

#2 You may be able to contact an eligible WORCHID through your local Veteran’s Affairs Office, District or State, by word of mouth or local through churches.

#3 After contact is made with a parent, let them know what you are able to offer and do for the child. If interest is shown, follow up with finding out what the child would like to do.

#4 Do not force your involvement if the family is not interested.

SUGGESTIONS FOR WORCHID PROJECTS

1. Send birthday cards, small gifts or cards on holidays.

2. Take a Worchid to the movies, circus, zoo, park, ball games, to lunch, etc.

3. Include them in Post activities

4. Be a friend, mentor, adopted mother or grandmother to a Worchid.

Last reviewed by Bertha Lema, 2nd Vice President on 4/2018