



Department of Minnesota
January 2026 Unit Mailing
Community Service Chairman,
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A new year always feels like a clean page, and it gives us a chance to look at what we've done and where we'd like to go next. Our units accomplished a lot over the past year, and every hour spent volunteering, checking in on a veteran, or helping with a project made a real difference. Thank you to everyone who stepped up, shared ideas, and supported the mission in their own way.

Looking Ahead: As we move into the new year, we'll continue focusing on meaningful, hands-on ways to support veterans, military families, and our community. Whether it's helping with an ongoing project or trying something new, every contribution matters. Small efforts add up quickly when we work together.

Winter Community Service Ideas

The winter months give us plenty of chances to brighten someone's day. Here are a few simple ways to help during the colder season:

Warmth & Comfort

- Donate coats, mittens, hats, and warm socks
- Put together small "warmth packs" with things like hand warmers and lip balm
- Make fleece blankets for veterans, seniors, or families who could use a little extra comfort

Supporting Veterans

- Send cards or "winter cheer" notes to veterans in local facilities
- Drop off baked goods or hot meals to homebound veterans
- Offer a ride to appointments when the roads or weather make travel harder

Helping the Community

- Support food shelves, which often see higher need during winter
- Check on neighbors who might struggle with shoveling or icy walkways
- Work with local schools on scarves, mittens, or boot drives
- Help warming centers with snacks, toiletries, or volunteer hours

Family & Youth Activities

- Create simple craft kits for kids in shelters or youth programs
- Read to children during community events or after-school programs
- Join American Legion Family Day activities that bring youth and veterans together

How to Take Part

- Join us at monthly meetings to help plan upcoming projects
- Lend a hand at one of our Community Service events
- Bring a friend or fellow member who would enjoy helping
- Keep an eye out for new volunteer opportunities as the year unfolds

Thank you for everything you do to support the mission and lift up those around you. Here's to a new year filled with purpose, connection, and meaningful service.