

Hi, I'm Margie Lindberg and I am your 2020-2021 Department of Washington Auxiliary Hospital Program Chair.

For the hospital program to be successful, for any program to be successful it must have specific projects with attainable goals. I am going to tell you the projects and give you specific goals, which follow your yearend report. Each District President has a hard copy for each auxiliary in their envelope.

This year we must be even more creative in what we do to help our Veterans that are in VA hospitals, VA nursing homes, as well as any public or private hospital, nursing facility, group home, or rehab center.

I will be repeating this often!

To quote my National Ambassador Linda Roloff, "Let's address the elephant in the room. . . COVID."

We are going to do that by first

- Honoring each other,
- recognizing our efforts and
- respecting each other.

We have to remind each other about what our goals are and how we can be creative to achieve those goals,

- we need to acknowledge and award each other for sharing our best practices, and
- coming up with new ways to volunteer.
- The biggest thing we must all do is embrace technology.

As we work through the phases of Covid whether it be phase 1 or phase 4 we will be definitely looking to our VAVS Reps- (that stands for - Veterans Administration Volunteer Service Representatives) to see what is needed and what is acceptable at our VA Hospitals and Veterans Home facilities this year.

Remember:

“We serve Veterans that are in VA Hospitals, VA Nursing Homes, as well as any public or private hospital, nursing facility, group home, or rehab center.”

When contacting these facilities please contact the director and/or their volunteer coordinator to see what they need and how we can help.

Before I continue I want to emphasize the importance of the Hospital Program Guide and using it as your reference.

- Please go to the Hospital Program Guide in the National Program Book and
- our webpage for the Department of Washington Auxiliary under programs, you'll find the Hospital Program. There you will find information about our local VA Hospitals, Veteran Homes, and their needs and wish lists and **everything I am presenting today.**

Now that you have been introduced to the Hospital Program, I will give you your Hospital Project Goals.

- You need project 1 to successfully carry out 2 & 3.

### **Project 1:**

- **Volunteer Support and Recognition.**
- Volunteers hold up our program - it's not me standing up here in front of you it's not even necessarily just the 14 people who are our VAVS Reps, Deputy Reps, and Associate Reps.
- How do we get volunteers well - advertise.
  - a. send out emails and phone calls to your auxiliary and post members,
  - b. use social media
  - c. you could ask your neighbor,
  - d. maybe some young teenagers who are looking to get volunteer time for high school credit, and
  - e. Elementary school students who can make or write cards, draw pictures, or make a poster for a facility.
- Remember to be specific about what your volunteers will be doing, their time commitment, and how you plan on thanking them.

## **Project 2:**

- **Women Veterans Health Care**
- Women Veterans are the fastest growing group of Veterans within the VA Healthcare System.
  - a. We need to get the word out as to how we can best help them.
  - b. Where they find VA facilities that will provide specialized gender specific care,
  - c. PTSD for women,
  - d. sexual trauma care for women,
  - e. OB/GYN care, and
  - f. Specific women's cancer care.
- When you are having a Family Freedom Event or tabling at a community event be sure to have some pamphlets and brochures about the VA Women's Health Care. I have provided links on our Dept webpage for all of the following and each District President received a master set to make copies for you.
  - a. Download or order pamphlets and brochures about the VA Women's Health Care.  
<https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/>
  - b. PTSD Support  
[https://www.va.gov/directory/guide/state\\_PTSD.cfm?STATE=WA](https://www.va.gov/directory/guide/state_PTSD.cfm?STATE=WA)
  - c. Complete Facility Listing  
[https://www.va.gov/directory/guide/rpt\\_fac\\_list.cfm](https://www.va.gov/directory/guide/rpt_fac_list.cfm)

d. Maternity Care

<https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/outreachmaterials/GeneralHealthandWellness/maternity.asp>

e. Sexual Trauma

<https://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/mentalhealth/msthome/index.asp>

f. Women Veterans Fact Sheet

[https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/WomenVeteransFactSheet101216\\_508.pdf#](https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/WomenVeteransFactSheet101216_508.pdf#)

g. Women's Health Services General Brochure

[https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/WHSGeneralBrochure\\_2018\\_508.pdf#](https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/WHSGeneralBrochure_2018_508.pdf#)

h. Women's Guide to VA Resources Brochure

[https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/WomenVeteranVAResourcesBrochure\\_2018\\_508.pdf#](https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/WomenVeteranVAResourcesBrochure_2018_508.pdf#)

i. Reproductive Health Brochure

[https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/WHSReproHealthBrochure\\_2018\\_508.pdf#](https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/WHSReproHealthBrochure_2018_508.pdf#)

and

j. Healthy Aging Brochure

[https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/VA\\_Aging\\_081913\\_v2.pdf#](https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/docs/VA_Aging_081913_v2.pdf#)

### **Project 3:**

- **The National to Salute to Veteran Patients Week.**
- It's all about Valentines for Veterans and remembering them especially during our National to Salute to Veteran Patients Week, which is the week of February 14.
- Personally, Valentine's Day is my favorite holiday. It's just a nice way and fun day to send everyone you care a small note of love and appreciation for being in your life.
- So Start Early! This year as February approaches, think about making some decorations -
  - a. Remember back when you were in elementary school and all the fun you had making Valentine projects out of hearts - well that's exactly what we're going to do.
  - b. Send cards, make paper chains out of pink, red and purple paper, and
  - c. Get crafty, get ideas off Pintrest.
- Hopefully by February we will be able to get into some of our facilities and actually throw a party, have some cookies, pass out valentines, and help bring some comfort, joy, and companionship to our Veterans.

On the webpage you'll find all of this information.

You will also find your Hospital Year End Report.

- It's very clear and easy.

Remember:

“We serve Veterans that are in VA hospitals, VA nursing homes, as well as any public or private hospital, nursing facility, group home, or rehab center.”

So to wrap up there are plenty of opportunities so when it comes down to the questions on your yearend report

- count those members who volunteered -
- whether it be of time or
- other material goods or monies
- did you recruit new volunteers from the community how did you advertise for your volunteers
  - a. on the TV, radio, newspapers, Facebook and
  - b. of course flyers at events
- How did you recognize those volunteers?
  - a. Did you have a coffee and cookies or cake?
  - b. Did you give them any certificates?
  - c. Did you present a pin?
  - d. Did you nominate someone for the Hospital Volunteer of the Year award?
- Did you use the Hospital Program Guide?
- Did your auxiliary sponsor or conduct an event at any VA or non-VA medical facility?
- Did you make Valentines and celebrate National Salute to Veteran Patients Week?
- Did you promote women’s healthcare?

- Did you report the total amount of money spent on hospital projects, how was it used. (This is not the same as the VAVS budget report.)

Before I close a few business items to review:

- Please be prompt in paying your Auxiliary Hospital Donation of \$3.00 per member, this is vital for our funding.
- Also remember, what you do for the Hospital Program can also count for your Community Outreach hours.
- Even numbered Auxiliary Districts need to have a Basket for Mid-Winter Conference. If any Odd numbered District Auxiliaries have baskets from the canceled convention – PLEASE bring those to Mid-Winter too.
- We need each individual Auxiliaries to donate 3 to 5 Gift Cards of reasonable value (\$5.00 - \$25.00) each for the Duck Pond game prizes. Please be generous.

I look forward to seeing each of you on my Facebook page  
Share AUX Dept. WA Hospital 2020-2021



2020-2021 Hospital Program Ambassador

**Linda A. Roloff**

**“Blessed to Serve”**





# VFW AUXILIARY

## 2020-2021 Hospital Program

### ★ Mission

#### The **Hospital Program:**

Promotes volunteerism of members, non-members, youth and families in local **hospitals**, veterans' homes, nursing homes, domiciliaries and both VA and non-VA medical centers and clinics. Opportunities vary based on the facility and age and abilities of the volunteer.

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## VFW AUXILIARY

### Activate Your "Why"

- ★ Support VA personnel and patients
- ★ Needed at every type of facility
- ★ Help to alleviate fear, confusion and loneliness
- ★ Bring comfort, joy and normalcy

We owe it to our Veterans to be with them when their battle moves from the front lines to the home front.

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# VFW AUXILIARY

## Women Veterans Healthcare Program

- ★ Women are the fastest-growing group of veterans
- ★ Most underserved within the VA Health Care System
- ★ Often mistaken for a spouse or family member
- ★ Knowledge is power
- ★ Include women's health in all promotions

Be an awareness "Battle-Buddy" and seek solutions to gender-specific healthcare issues.

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## VFW AUXILIARY

### National Salute to Veteran Patients

- ★ A “Love Letter” to hospitalized veterans
- ★ Valentines for Vets
- ★ Parties and concerts in care facilities

The week of Valentines Day (February 14) we show the love!

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## VFW AUXILIARY

### Keep Your Why Close By

Hospital is deeply personal for us and those we serve;  
it is face to face and heart to heart.

When their nation called, our veterans answered.

We should stand ready to answer a call veterans will not  
make for themselves.

If your Auxiliaries are not in the hospitals and care  
facilities, where are they?

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