

VAVS Programs

Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Program.

Hello Everyone,

Thank you, I truly appreciate you very much and hope to learn a lot from each of you.

You are truly the strong trunk of the Hospital Volunteer Team Tree. I'd like to think of the other officers, chairs, and myself as the roots, feeding you what you need to support the branches and leaves - all the other Auxiliary Members who support our Veterans, Service Members, and their Families.

Much of what is here you each already know and practice. With the COVID pandemic we must all get used to a *new normal*. I know you will find new and creative ways to support those in hospitals, nursing homes, Veterans homes, VA facilities, and other medical facilities where Veterans, Service Members, and their Families are served. Please share your ideas with each other and me.

We will make our Hospital Volunteer Team Tree grow, blossom, and give shade, comfort, rest and respite to those during a time of need.

With Heartfelt Thanks and Appreciation,

Margie Lindberg, Dept. of WA Hospital Chair

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On the following pages are a few housekeeping items, and an excerpt from the National Program Book. You will find complete information there, as well as Sabrina C. Clark, Director, VA Voluntary Service.

HOUSEKEEPING:

● **BUDGET REPORTS:**

- **Must be turned in at the end of each month or by the 5th of the following month. (Please contact Cindy and me if you have extenuating circumstances, sickness, hospital, emergency, etc.)**
- **Send report to: (you were provided envelopes)**
 - **1. Secretary/Treasurer Cindy Burkey - ORIGINAL**
 - **2. Hospital Chair Margie Lindberg**
 - **3. One for yourself**
- **Failure to turn in a report by the 5th of the following month will result in the withholding of future funds. This comes directly from Madam President Stetson.**

● **VOLUNTEER HOURS REPORTING:**

- **This is on the bottom of your monthly budget report.**
- **Members are counted as one volunteer for reporting purposes regardless of whether or not they volunteer at both VA and non-VA facilities.**

VAVS PROVIDES NEEDS and COMMUNICATES NEEDS

The VFW Auxiliary provides volunteers and resources to VA facilities across the country and saves the Department of Veterans Affairs millions of dollars a year. The table below illustrates how the VFW Auxiliary Hospital Program supports the **Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Program.**

How VFW Auxiliary members participate:

- Participate in projects voted on and accepted by the Auxiliary.
- Make items such as lap robes, hats, quilts, cards, etc.
- Fundraise for the Department's Hospital fund.
- Encourage volunteers in ALL medical facilities.
- Promote projects and volunteer opportunities to all members and the community.
- Present Hospital Volunteer Appreciation certificates.
- Order VFW Auxiliary Hospital Pins for total hours earned from all facilities.

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July 1, 2020

- Hours are earned in **ALL** VA and non-VA facilities.
- Be a Regularly Scheduled (RS) or Occasional volunteer.
- Regularly Scheduled (RS) volunteers:
 - Comply with VAVS Guidelines.
 - Participate on a regularly scheduled basis.
 - Are supervised by a VA employee.
 - May be appointed by the Department President as VAVS Representative or Deputy Representative.
- Occasional volunteers:
 - Do not meet the requirements of RS volunteers.
 - Volunteer with a group or organization occasionally.
 - Hours are earned in **ONLY** VA facilities.