

## **VAVS Representative**

Update on our VAVS program - stands for (Veterans Administration Volunteer Services)

Here in Washington the Hospital Program serves eight specific facilities and they are all listed on the Hospital Program webpage.

I'd like to give a really quick and brief synopsis of what some of our 8 VAVS Reps and their deputies are doing. **It is A LOT, and it is IMPRESSIVE!**

In addition to considerable cash donations to these facilities to use for the veterans, VAVS reps supplied items such as food, snacks, cupcakes, clothes such as T-shirts, sweatpants, sweatshirts, undergarments, hygiene products, towels, wash cloths, laundry supplies, the list goes on.

It is the out of the ordinary items that really surprise me that get donated such as baby items, a mountain bike, a headlamp, dinner for a CLC group, Wi-Fi for an entire facility, sleeping bags for homeless, winter items so that they can be warm, TV sets, Samsung computer tablets, plexiglass so patients can see visitors, cable hook ups and a TV so that patients can video chat with family and friends, and then course decorations for The holidays.

I am talking about thousands of dollars worth of tangible items and intangible items that directly affect the lives of our veterans who are in hospitals and other home facilities.

I cannot say enough about how grateful and thankful I am that we have these eight women and their deputies to carry-on this work. But they cannot do it alone, they need our help.

All of this is funded solely by donations and fundraising events. I am not asking just those of us here today at this Zoom meeting, but I'm asking you to ask your family and friends and neighbors who are not part of our organization to help support all of our most needy and often most helpless Veterans.