

Hospital

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As members of the VFW Auxiliary, we are aware of the importance of veterans. Without their service and sacrifice we would not have the freedoms we so easily take for granted. By volunteering in VA hospitals as well as non-VA centers we can in some small way repay their sacrifice. Auxiliary Members **“Banding together for our Veterans” to “Let Freedom Ring.”**

The Hospital Program for the Department of PA will focus on:

Volunteer, Recruitment, Recognition and Support: By volunteering you are helping the VA to save millions of dollars in health care expenses. There are many opportunities to volunteer either as a regular volunteer or as an occasional volunteer. It is easy to become a volunteer contact the Volunteer Director at the facility.

Recognize those that volunteer. A simple thank you goes a long way. Certificates can be printed, go to www.vfwauxiliary.org/resources to print certificates.

Valentines for Veterans: Share the love we have for our veterans by sending either store bought or homemade valentines. Consider hosting (if allowed) or sponsoring a party, recognition event or dinner in their honor. This is an opportunity to get the community involved.

Women Veterans Health Care: Women have served our nation for generations and are the fastest growing group within the veteran population. There are services available and tailored to the unique needs of women veterans. Visit <http://www.womenshealth.va.gov> to learn more about what is available.

Honors Escort: This program is designed to inform nursing homes and hospitals of a respectful manner to honor veterans at the time of death. The program provides an opportunity for a veteran’s family and friends, other veterans, and medical staff to participate in a display of high regard and reverence for the veteran.

Celebrating Non-traditional Holidays: While we remember our hospitalized veterans at Christmas, New Years, and Veterans Day, let us shake it up and remember them on little know special days of the year. Such as Christmas in July, National Hug a G.I. Day, Football kick off day. Here is a great link: www.calendarr.com/united-states/observances-2023/.

Special Project - Adult Clothing Protectors (Bibs)

There is a great need for bibs at your VA
and non-VA hospitals and nursing homes.
Patterns are available at your local sewing centers.
(Simplicity # 2687 for just \$2.00 at Joann Fabrics.)

NATIONAL HOSPITAL PROGRAM AWARDS FOR MEMBERS

1. Citation to one member in each of the 10 Program Divisions who recruits the most Hospital Volunteers (VA & non-VA hospitals & nursing homes) from July 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024. Entry form (required) available at vfwauxiliary.org – MALTA member resources.
2. “Hospital Volunteer Recruiter of the Year” plaque awarded to one member in the nation who recruits the most Hospital Volunteers (VA & non-VA hospitals & nursing homes) from July 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024. Entry form (*required*) available at vfwauxiliary.org – MALTA member resources.
3. Citation to the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in each of the 10 Program Divisions. (VA & non-VA hospitals & nursing homes) Entry form (*required*) available at vfwauxiliary.org – MALTA member resources.

NATIONAL HOSPITAL PROGRAM AWARD FOR AUXILIARIES

1. Citation to every Auxiliary that hosts an activity and /or event that recognizes veterans on non-traditional holidays. Entry form required.
2. A Citation and \$25 to one Auxiliary in each of the four Conferences that hosts the most outstanding activity and /or event recognizing veterans on non-traditional holidays. Entry form required and available at vfwauxiliary.org – MALTA member resources. Auxiliaries must send the entry form to Department Hospital Chairman by March 31, 2024 for judging.

DEPARTMENT OF PA HOSPITAL CITATIONS

1. Citation to the VFW Auxiliary in each Membership Division donating the most money to the VA hospitals and homes **thru** Department Headquarters.
2. Citation to the VFW Auxiliary in each Membership Division that has the most Hospital Volunteer hours. (Volunteer hours will be totaled from the year-end report.)
3. “Hospital Volunteer Recruiter of the Year” plaque awarded to one member in the Department who recruits the most Hospital Volunteers (VA & non-VA hospitals, nursing homes, and medical facilities) from July 1, 2023 to March 31, 2024. Entry form (*required*) available at vfwauxiliary.org – MALTA member resources.
4. Citation to the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year (VA & non-VA hospitals & nursing homes) Entry form (*required*) available at vfwauxiliary.org – MALTA member resources.

ALL OBLIGATIONS INCLUDING AUDITS, BONDS, DELEGATE FEES, PLEDGES, SUPPLIES, ETC. TO NATIONAL, DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, AND DISTRICT MUST BE MET FOR YOUR AUXILIARY/DISTRICT PRESIDENT AND CHAIRMEN TO QUALIFY FOR AWARDS.