

Hospital and VAVS Program 2011 – 2012

‘Beeing the Best We Can Be’ Serving the Best as a Hospital Volunteer

The National Director of the Hospital & VAVS Program, Sandi Kriebel stated in the National Program book to *‘Remember the greatness of our country. Remember that her greatness was won by those with courage, with knowledge of duty and with a sense of honor. Remember that we have an obligation not only as members of the Ladies Auxiliary VFW, but as American citizens to step up and serve . . . for there is no greater gift one can give then “to care for him who shall have borne the battle.”* With the vast increase in the veteran population over the last few years and the U.S. government constantly threatening to cut funding, the need for volunteers is greater than ever. This year the focus is on recruiting volunteers whether they are: *Regularly Scheduled* – volunteers who participate in the VAVS program on a regularly scheduled assignment under VA supervision - must complete annual training. These volunteers are eligible to receive individual VA volunteer awards. *Occasional Volunteers* – group volunteers or *Youth Volunteers* – our youth can experience valuable lessons and gain a visual appreciation and understanding of the sacrifices our veterans have made. Encourage Jr. Girls to volunteer and/or schools to have a volunteer program, whether it involves students actually going to a medical facility or helping in other ways by making treats, ditty bags, cards, etc. Nominate a student volunteer in the 10th grade or above that has completed 100 hours at a VA Medical facility during the calendar year ending September 2011, for the James H. Parke Memorial Scholarship. Forms and more information are available at the VA Voluntary Service Office of each VAMC.

Here are some ways that you can volunteer:

1. Contact the Voluntary Services at the VA Medical Centers, Community-based outpatient clinics, community living centers.
2. Volunteer opportunities are available in other medical facilities, nursing homes and assisted living therapy centers, outpatient and satellite clinics.
3. Sponsor non-member volunteers at a VA Medical Center, community- based outpatient clinic or community living centers.
4. Make donated items for medical facilities and nursing homes.
5. Recognize a volunteer by nominating her as ‘Outstanding Hospital Volunteer.’ Send the nomination to me by April 30, 2012.
6. Donate \$1.25/member (based on 6/30/11 membership) to ‘Hospital Fund:’
LAVFW Department of Ohio P.O. Box 15730 Columbus, Ohio 43215
After this obligation is met, other donations may be sent to Department earmarked for a specific VA Medical facility.
7. Sponsor/conduct an event or activity at a medical facility.

The PINK BOOK has gone *green*. The new/revised *‘Hospital Program & VAVS Guide’* can now be found on the National Ladies Auxiliary web site.

If I can help you in any way please do not hesitate to contact me and please remember . . . as our National Director Sandi says it best. . . ‘Our veterans are a special breed of people who didn’t hesitate to volunteer. Their willingness to sacrifice their lives for the love of their country and flag, for the love of their fellow man is true patriotism. It is now our turn to volunteer...our duty...our obligation to *Step Up ~Leave No Veteran Behind.*’

Thank you for what you have done and continue to do for the hospitalized veterans.

Loyally,
Jane Walker, Dept. Hospital Chairman
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National Awards for Volunteers

Charm to each member recruiting one or more volunteers between 7/1/11 and 5/31/12

A pin or pin/bar to each Auxiliary member reaching 150+ hours
as stated in the “*Hospital Program & VAVS Guide*”

A pin to each sponsored non-member volunteer, including youth volunteers, who serves a minimum of 100 hours under Auxiliary sponsorship at any hospital.

Junior Unit Awards at Junior Girls Conference

Award to Unit for bringing the most first-time youth volunteers to a hospital/nursing home treat or assisting in making donated items.

Citation to all Units participating

Mid Winter Conference

Citation to each Auxiliary for participating in Hospital Program by December 31, 2011

June Convention

Auxiliary:

Citation for donating \$1.25/member (membership as of June 30, 2011)

Citation to each candidate nominated for ‘Outstanding Hospital Volunteer’

Award to the ‘Outstanding Hospital Volunteer’

Award by membership group for the MOST money donated/member to Hospital Fund

Award by membership group for the BEST program/project at/for a medical facility

District:

Award to the District Chairman with the BEST promotion of the Hospital Program