

Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary HOSPITAL BULLETIN June 2022

www.vfwauxmi.org

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UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

National Theme: Hands that Serve, Hearts that Care

Department Theme: Be the Anchor for Our Veterans, Hold Them Steady and Safe

Women Veterans Health Care

REMINDER: Women Veterans Day is **June 12, 2022**. Have you made plans to somehow honor these wonderful ladies? It could be as simple as asking them to stand for recognition at your Auxiliary meeting or sending cards to thank them for their service. Most VA facilities and Veteran Homes are planning some type of recognition. Perhaps you could call one in your area to see how you may support their efforts.

VFW Auxiliary HOSPITAL Program

Did you know that the VFW Auxiliary saves the Department of Veterans Affairs millions of dollars each year? To accomplish this, Auxiliaries provide volunteers and resources to VA facilities across the country.

The Department President appoints a VAVS Representative and Deputy to each Michigan VA Medical Facility and Veterans Home. The appointees act as liaison between the facility, the Department of Michigan VFW Auxiliary, and the Auxiliaries. When you see any of the following members, please join me in thanking them for their hard work.

FACILITY NAME	REPRESENTATIVE	DEPUTY
J.D. Dingel VA - Detroit	Nancy Gaglio	Pamela Croyle
Battle Creek VA	Merridy Lewis	Francene Budzisch
O.G. Johnson VA - Iron Mountain	Judy Fell	Henry Perry
Aleda E. Lutz VA - Saginaw	Della Steege	Sharon Hickmott
C.S. Kettles VA - Ann Arbor	Mariann Hamann	Sandra Medos
Grand Rapids Home for Veterans	Sonya VanValkenburg	David Zimmerman
Jacobetti Home for Veterans	Renae Petrocik	Linda Olsen
MI Veterans Home - Chesterfield	Patricia Patterson	JoAnne Rosseel

NOTE: The facility, Rep and Dep for Michigan Veterans Home – Chesterfield are now official, so monetary donations made through Department can be earmarked for this home.

Also, Ann Arbor VA has a new name, LTC Charles S. Kettles VA Medical Center.

Innovation in Serving Veterans

We tend to get comfortable doing the same things for our hospitalized Veterans over and over. Surprise our Veterans! Think out of the box! Be Creative! Then share your completed projects with me on your next quarterly report.

"\$1.00 per Member"

The "\$1.00 per Member" Suggested Hospital donation is important because it provides a monthly allowance for each Representative (Rep) at Michigan's five VA medical facilities and three Veterans homes. These funds along with moneys donated by Auxiliaries through the Department are used to purchase items needed for Veterans at the facility to which the Rep is assigned. One eighth of the proceeds from the STAR Raffles is also sent to each Rep to meet hospitalized Veterans' needs. All donations are appreciated even if your Auxiliary cannot afford to pay the entire suggested amount.

Reporting

- To provide National with a count of the number of volunteers, it is critical that a member only be counted **ONCE** a year. On all subsequent quarterly reports (online or hard copy), the member count for that member should be **ZERO**.
- The cost and postage for cards sent to hospitalized Veterans or their hospitalized family members can be reported under the Hospital Program. Hours should include time spent shopping for the cards plus taking them to the post office or delivering them in person.
- Miles and hours for driving a Veteran or their family members to the doctor or hospital is reportable.
- If one or more of your Auxiliary members is a regularly scheduled volunteer at a hospital or nursing home, please keep track of their hours. It is the Auxiliary Hospital Chairman's responsibility to request Hospital Volunteer Service Pins from National when a milestone number of volunteer hours is reached. The required application and a picture of the various pins available are on the Department website and in Malta.
- The Money field should reflect any dollars or value of items donated by your Auxiliary or by individual members on behalf of the Auxiliary.

Together in Service,

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