

Michigan Department VFW Auxiliary HOSPITAL BULLETIN October 2022

www.vfwauxmi.org

Facebook Page: Hospital-Michigan

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

What do you think of when you think of October? At the top of my list are apple cider, fall colors, and Halloween. It is a great time to remember our hospitalized Veterans and those confined to nursing homes or Veterans' Homes. Sponsor a Halloween Party. Make "spooky" tray favors. Donate cider and donuts or candy. If you have a very creative, innovative idea, please be sure to include the details on your quarterly report. Also, submit National's Award #1 entry form. Every Auxiliary who does, will earn a National Citation and possibly win a \$25 Award.

Begin planning now, how you will remember our hospitalized Veterans on Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, and the Christmas holiday season.

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT and RECOGNITION

If your Auxiliary is privileged to have a hospital volunteer, why not ask them to say a few words at your next meeting, telling the other members what they do, how much the Veterans appreciate their assistance and the benefits they get personally from volunteering.

STAR RAFFLE

Thank you for your participation in our Hospital Program fundraiser at Fall Conference, the STAR Raffle. Because of your help, this continues to be very successful project. Moneys raised are divided between the five VA Medical Facilities and three Veterans' Homes. These funds allow us to provide much needed items for our Veterans.

REPORTING

- Please only click on the SUBMIT button once. I have received many reports that look like duplicates.
- If, on the same day, you report reading/discussing your bulletin for two months on separate reports, please type the month in the description so I know the second report is not a duplicate.
- Make sure you select the Hospital Activity that best describes what your Auxiliary did. Please do not leave it blank and do not report every project under "Other".
Question: Is taking a Veteran or one of their family members to the hospital or doctor appointment reportable under Hospital? What if the driver is a relative of

the Veteran?

Response: Per Mary Spindler, National Hospital Ambassador - Reporting can be kind of tricky, and this is a good question. The answer I can best provide is that taking a veteran or family member to a doctor appointment should probably be reported under Veterans and Family Support, since they are not actually staying in a hospital. As far as being a relative, that should not make a difference if the volunteer providing the assistance is a member of the VFW Auxiliary.

I am seeking additional clarification from my National Ambassador. What about driving a Veteran for outpatient testing? Also, at Ann Arbor VA and many other VA facilities, primary care physicians (PCPs) see Veterans at clinics inside the hospital or at community-based outpatient clinics (CBOCs). Watch for an update on my Hospital-Michigan Facebook page and next month's bulletin. In the meantime, report as you have been.

VAVS Representatives, help keep our members knowledgeable on what the Veterans at your facility need. Please provide the Department Secretary with a needs list as they are generated by your facility.

Together in Service,

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