## **MESSAGE FROM THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION**

## December 5, 2023

## **International Volunteer Day**

Each year on December 5, International Volunteer Day, the world recognizes volunteers for their efforts in transforming their societies, economies, and environments through their giving of time and donations. VA proudly joins this celebration.

We are grateful for the contributions of our volunteers, donors, and community partners. Since 1946, their generosity has made a difference in the lives of America's Veterans, families, caregivers, and survivors.

In fiscal year 2023, more than 25,000 volunteers contributed over three million hours of service to vital programs such as the Volunteer Transportation Network, Red Coat Ambassadors, Compassionate Contact Corps and Honor Guard services.

Not only did VA volunteers give of their time in FY23, but many donated financially as well, giving over \$80 million in support of a wide variety of programs and activities including services for Veterans experiencing homelessness, Veteran baby showers, recreational activities, and adaptive sports.

Please take a moment to thank a VA volunteer for their service and consider becoming part of the VA volunteer family. Contact <u>your local VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement office</u> to see how you can further support VA in its mission to serve Veterans.

Thank you for all you do to serve those who have served every day.