

**Hospital Program
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As our new year begins for 2024-2025, the Hospital Program is our VFW Auxiliar's longest-running program. We have been serving our Veterans in the Hospitals for over 100 years. This year for our Hospital Program, we will be going back to the basics and bring a ray of sunshine to our Hospitalized Veterans. Our Auxiliary Volunteers are going to 'bridge the gap' between our Hospitalized Veterans and their families.

The Auxiliary Volunteers can serve in different types of facilities? YES!

- Local Hospitals
- Veterans' homes
- Nursing homes
- Domiciliaries
- Both VA and non-VA medical facilities and clinics

Who can serve as Volunteers?

- Members
- Non-members
- Youth
- Families

For Volunteering, what can we earn?

Members can earn Hospital Volunteer Service Pins from our National Headquarters. To receive your Hospital pin, request the appropriate form from me or your Regional Hospital Co-Chairmen – we will get it from the MALTA Member Resources. Auxiliary Hospital Chairmen should keep track of the Volunteer hours.

Members can also be named an Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in their Program Division. You can get more information and the application form from your Regional Co-Chairmen: Hospital-North, Hospital-Central or Hospital-South.

The non-member volunteers can also earn a one-time-only volunteer pin for 100 hours. Ask your Regional Co-Chairman for more information.

Volunteer Recruitment Recognition & Support

New volunteers are needed all the time -- with their help they offset the dollars in the expensive health care industry. Some ideas for recruiting and retaining volunteers:

- Doing a monthly sign-up sheet for regular events
- Emails and phone calls for special events
- Public recognition of current volunteers
- Be specific about what volunteers will be doing, including the time commitment
- See how each person is better communicating by phone, email, Facebook or texting
- If someone says “no” the first time, then gracefully ask again.

Valentines for Veterans...or Veterans Day Cards...or Thanksgiving Cards...or other Holidays

Let us share our Love on Valentine’s Day by giving a Veteran and Servicemen and Servicewomen a Valentine’s Day Card, having a party for the Hospitalized Veterans or have a dinner for the Veterans at your Post.

Think outside of the heart-shaped box to celebrate all the other Holidays of the year with hospitalized veterans. Consider partnering with your Youth Activities Chairmen to get help from youth groups to create cards for all holidays.

Women Veterans Health Care

Health Care services are available for our Women Veterans at the VA. When volunteering, be sure to consider that you will be providing support to male and female veterans – factor that into the items your Auxiliary plans to supply to, or activities your Auxiliary will sponsor at, the Hospital / Fisher House / Patriot’s House / CBOC / Tiny Homes.

Honors Escort

This program is an opportunity to honor every Veteran in a respectful manner when they have passed away. If the Veteran passed away in a hospital, this can bring the family and friends, other Veterans and Medical facility staff together to participate with reverence and high respect for the veteran who has passed away. Volunteers should inquire if the VA Hospital or facility has this program, and be prepared to participate if it does.

Our Hospital Program is complemented by our VAVS Representatives and Deputies, appointed by National for coordinating needs and activities at each of the major VA Hospitals. Each of the Regional Co-Chairmen are responsible for ensuring the Hospital Program provides the support

specifically needed by the VA Hospitals and facilities in their respective region. The Department Chairman has overall responsibility and oversight for implementing the National Ambassador's Program Goals for the year.

In our Department, we continue to have a special Hospital Pin which is presented to members who have completed at least 10 hours of volunteering. Your Auxiliary Hospital Chairman can request pins from the Hospital Pin Co-Chairman:

Marlene Raffety, Hospital Pin Co-Chairman
1711 East Solar Avenue, Fresno, CA 93720
559-434-0713 (H) 559-960-8225 (C)
miraffety@comcast.net

Our Hospital South Co-Chairman is also our VAVS Coordinator:
Rosalind Jenkins, 3261-4
27060 Yorba Linda Court
Menifee, CA 92586
310-874-1242
Rosalindjenkins99@yahoo.com

Our Hospital Central Co-Chairman is:
Iris Vogt 8900-9
751 South First Street
Kerman, CA 93630
559-846-9594
Irisvogt1946@gmail.com

Our Hospital North Co-Chairman is:
Amanda Smith
2340 Hackberry St.
Stockton, CA 95205
209-636-1952
mandy_bsb_bsg2002@yahoo.com

Remember: National President Brenda Bryant's theme is ***"From Our Roots to Our Branches: Extending Service to Our Veterans."*** In California, we are ***"Growing in Service for Our Veterans, Rooted in Strength."***

National Awards:

Awards for Members:

1. Citation to VFW Auxiliary member in each of the 10 Program Divisions who recruits the most Hospital (VA and Non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1st, 2024 to March 31st, 2025. Entry form required available on MALTA Membership Resources. Winners will be announced and citations presented at the 2025 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.
2. "Hospital Volunteer Recruiter of the Year," plaque to the one VFW Auxiliary member in the nation who recruits the most Hospital (VA and Non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1st, 2024 to March 31st, 2025. Entry form required available in MALTA Membership Resources. Winner will be announced and plaque presented at the 2025 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.
3. Citation to the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in each of the 10 Program Divisions. Entry form required available on the MALTA Membership Resources. Winners will be announced and citations presented at the 2025 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

Awards for Auxiliaries:

4. Most creative ways to interact with and to provide happiness to veteran patients.
 - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions that were the most creative in ways to interact with and to provide happiness to veteran patients.

Entry form required and available in MALTA Membership Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry for to the Department Hospital Chairman by March 31, 2025 for judging. The Department Hospital Chairman must sign and send a copy of the completed Department winning entry form to the National Hospital Ambassador by April 30, 2025 for judging.

Citations will be mailed directly to the winning VFW Auxiliaries from National Headquarters and money will be deposited into the winning VFW Auxiliary account after the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

Awards for Department Chairmen:

1. The Outstanding Performance Award and Second Place Outstanding Performance Award will be awarded in each of the 10 Program Divisions based on the criteria listed on Page 5 of the National Program Book and for the promotion of the Program Goals listed at the top of Page 31 of the National Program Book.

Winners will be announced and awards presented at the 2025 VFW Auxiliary National Convention in Columbus, Ohio.

Department Legacy Awards

A Legacy Award will be awarded to one Outstanding Auxiliary Chairman for Best Performance in the Hospital Program.

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

Application for Medical Assistance Grant VFW AUXILIARY – DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

Complete and mail one copy directly to the Department President Sharonda Lewis, c/o VFW Auxiliary Department of California, 9136 Elk Grove Boulevard, Suite 101, Elk Grove, CA 95624

AUXILIARY NAME _____ **#** _____ **DISTRICT** _____

NAME OF AUXILIARY MEMBER _____

Date joined Auxiliary _____ **Date current year's dues paid** _____

Date previous year's dues paid _____ **Marital Status** _____

Does Member (or Spouse) have hospitalization insurance? _____

OR Medicare? _____

Name of Insurance Company _____

Name of Hospital and length of Hospital Stay _____

Percentage of Hospital bills paid by insurance _____ **(copy of hospital showing what insurance does not pay)**

Member has _____ **has not** _____ **received a previous hospital grant (if so, give date)**

Please advise (in detail) why you feel this Member needs assistance:

Approved by Auxiliary Treasurer:

Date _____

Address:

(Approved assistance will be mailed and paid directly to the member at the address on record in MALTA).

PHYSICIAN'S STATEMENT

Name and location of Hospital (if hospitalized)

Date confined from _____ to

Diagnosis

Prognosis:

Signed:

Physician's Signature

Date

Physician's Address

.....

Application Granted [] Denied []

Date _____ Amount \$ _____

If Grant was denied, please explain reason for denial:

These are the questions you should try to answer when you make your reports about your Auxiliary's Hospital projects online. Include sufficient details in your description to help your Department Chairman recognize your accomplishments. Select the appropriate "Activity" when completing your report.

VFW Auxiliary National Year-End Report Worksheet Hospital 2024-2025

This form is for statistical purposes only.

The Department Chairman must submit this report form to their Department President by May 1.
This report to be processed in MALTA by the Department President by May 10.

Department: _____ Number of participating Auxiliaries: _____

1. Number of Auxiliary members that volunteered at any VA and/or non-VA medical facility. (Auxiliary member to be counted one time only per year.) _____
2. Total number of hours that Auxiliary members volunteered at any VA and/or non-VA medical facility. _____
3. Total number of hours that Sponsored Volunteers and/or students volunteered under the VFW Auxiliary sponsorship and supervision at any VA and/or non-VA medical facility. _____
4. Number of Auxiliaries that promoted, participated, hosted or co-hosted any activity with or without their VFW Post. _____
5. Total dollar amount spent on all Hospital Program-related items and/or projects. _____

Department Chairman signature: _____

Date: _____ Conference: _____