

# Hospital Program & VAVS



## PROGRAM GOALS

Honors Escort   Volunteer Recruitment  
Valentines for Veterans   Support and Recognition  
Women Veterans Health Care

We are advocates for OUR Veterans in the Health Care system. We should see it as an honor to Volunteer at the VA Hospital, VA clinics as well as non- VA Hospitals and nursing homes. When we volunteer, it helps the hospitals and other facilities to stay focused on patient care while we keep the patients company by reading to them, playing cards, checkers, painting or whatever else we can do to keep them motivated.

**Yes! Volunteer's are needed everyday.... Check with your local facilities today and see how you can get involved.**

The primary goals of a hospital program are to improve patient care, enhance the overall healthcare experience, and support the medical staff in delivering high-quality services. These goals can be achieved through several initiatives, such as:

- **Patient-centered care:** Focusing on the needs and preferences of patients to ensure they receive personalized and compassionate care.
- **Valentines for Veterans:** Make our Veterans a Valentine's Card from your Auxiliary.
- **Honors Escort:** Supporting the family and loved ones of a Deceased Veteran.
- **Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition and support:** New volunteers are always needed and welcomed. Volunteers help create a friendly and caring atmosphere.
- **Women Veteran Health Care:** Trauma, depression, anxiety and eating disorder.

Volunteers play a crucial role in supporting hospital programs, Volunteers can be Members, non-members, youth, Family and friends. VA and non-VA hospitals, Nursing homes with Veterans and VA Clinics. Contributing to the overall success of healthcare services. Their involvement can be seen in various areas, including:

- **Patient support:** Providing companionship, assistance, and comfort to patients and their families during their hospital stay.
- **Administrative assistance:** Helping with clerical tasks, such as filing, data entry, and managing patient records, to support hospital staff.
- **Fundraising efforts:** Organizing and participating in events to raise funds for hospital programs and services.
- **Special projects:** Helping in areas such as art therapy, gardening, or other activities that enhance the hospital environment.
- **What can we do:** contact the facility of your choice, host an event with your VFW, find creative ways to celebrate a holiday with them.
- **What is VAVS:** Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service.
- **Confidentiality:** All information the Volunteer hears, see's or may read is imperative; a volunteer must NEVER discuss. In accordance with HIPPA.

**Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Serving our veterans in the VA clinics, hospitals etc in itself is a rewarding experience. The volunteer may also be recognized for the hours that they serve with service pins and bars.** A Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Representative or VFW Auxiliary Hospital Chairman must complete the official application form in MALTA Member Resources.

The dedication and commitment of volunteers are invaluable to hospitals, as they help bridge gaps in care, provide essential support, and contribute to the overall well-being of patients and staff. By working together, hospital programs and volunteers can achieve their common goals of improving healthcare and enriching the lives of those they serve.

**VA Voluntary Service:**  
<https://www.volunteer.va.gov/>

**Find your local VA Voluntary Service office at:**  
<https://www.volunteer.va.gov/directory/index.asp>

Viki Stripling Hospital Chairman  
[Vikiplottsdistrict11@yahoo.com](mailto:Vikiplottsdistrict11@yahoo.com)

### **DEPARTMENT AWARDS**

1. Special Award to one VFW Auxiliary member in each of the 5 membership classes who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.

**Entry form required** available on MALTA Member Resources. Citations to be mailed directly to winners from National Headquarters after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

2. Special Award for Hospital Volunteer Volunteer of the Year to one VFW Auxiliary member in the Department for Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026. **Entry form required** available on MALTA Member Resources. Plaque to be mailed directly to winner from National Headquarters after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

3. Special award for Most creative/unique activity and/or event to interact with and provide happiness to veterans in hospitals (VA and non-VA facilities) in each of the membership classes

**Entry form is required** and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Hospital Chairman by March 31, 2026 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, 2026 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 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

**National Awards**  
**Auxiliary Members**

1. Citation to one VFW Auxiliary member in each of the 10 Program Divisions who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026.

Entry form required available on MALTA Member Resources. Citations to be mailed directly to winners from National Headquarters after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

2. "Hospital Volunteer Recruiter of the Year" plaque awarded to one VFW Auxiliary member in the nation who recruits the most Hospital (VA and non-VA facilities) volunteers from July 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026. Entry form required available on MALTA Member Resources. Plaque to be mailed directly to winner from National Headquarters after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

2. Citation to the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year in each of the 10 Program Divisions. Entry form required available on MALTA Member Resources. Citations to be mailed directly to winners from National Headquarters after the 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.

**Awards for Auxiliaries:**

1. Most creative/unique activity and/or event to interact with and provide happiness to veterans in hospitals (VA and non-VA facilities)
  - Citation and \$25 to one VFW Auxiliary in each of the 10 Program Divisions for the most creative/unique activity and/or event to interact with and provide happiness to veterans in hospitals (VA and non-VA facilities). Entry form is required and available in MALTA Member Resources. VFW Auxiliaries must send the required entry form to the Department Hospital Chairman by March 31, 2026 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, 2026 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 2026 VFW Auxiliary National Convention.