

Hospital Volunteer

Since the start of Covid-19 in 2020 in the US, it has changed volunteerism in how we use our time, talent, and tithing. We must come up with new and innovative ways to volunteer. **VA Hospitals are taking donations and Volunteerism is slowly coming back.**

In my area we always went to the VA Hospital on the 3rd Thursday of the month and made hot dogs for the Veterans and played bingo with them, it has been a long time since those days. **Now we need to look outside the box for opportunities.**

VA Hospitals and Non-VA Hospitals are changing some aspects to volunteering. I found one volunteer opportunity called '**Compassionate Contact Corps**', part of **the VA. It is a Virtual Program, which matches volunteers and Veterans to talk on the phone or video for about 15-60 minutes a week or month.**

To look for opportunities you can call or go online to your local non-VA Hospital or Nursing home, Assisted Living Facilities, and Nursing Homes and ask for information on volunteering. Don't forget the people that can serve are Members, non-members, youth, and family.

For your Local VA facilities go to:

<https://www.volunter.va.gov>

For Compassionate Care Corps go to:

<https://www.volunteer.va.gov/ccp.asp>



Valentines For Veterans

With all the holidays that are coming up. It's time to start your program **Valentines for Veterans.**

- Get in touch with your local schools and ask the teachers if you can drop off the materials for school children to make cards for the Veterans that are unable to celebrate the holidays with their families that are in nursing homes, hospitals and assisted living facilities.
- Contact the facilities and find out when and where you drop the cards off. How about giving to the Veterans that are sitting in your canteen that have the ability to sign or write a note to another Veteran.
- See if the facilities will allow you to host a party or dinner for the Veterans. Your Auxiliary can show the Veterans the compassion and care that your Auxiliary has for the service they provide. Remember these members put their lives on the line for you.
Ask yourself how can you take this program to another level?

The following holidays are right around the corner:

Halloween Oct. 31st

Veterans Day Nov. 11th

Thanksgiving Nov. 24th

Hanukkah Dec. 18th

Christmas Dec 25th

New year's Jan. 1st

Valentine's Day Feb 14th

I am looking forward to hearing from you about your program so please **REPORT, REPORT, REPORT** what you have done as soon as possible. Email me at kabarr66@msn.com.