

Donation FAQs

Giving a donation? Consider these Frequently Asked Questions.

Q: Don't my tax dollars pay for the care of Veterans through the VA?

Yes. The VA, like other government agencies, is primarily funded through tax revenues. This appropriated funding covers salaries and other operational expenses. However, monetary and in-kind donations to VA are used to provide programs and services that further supplement the care of our nation's Veterans.

Q: What sort of supplemental programs and services can my donation provide?

Your donation provides services that add to existing programs and enhance the comfort and care of patients, such as recreation activities, holiday programs, family lodging, and services for indigent. Local facilities have designated accounts for the special needs of their patients.

Q: How much of my donation is used for administrative costs?

There are no administrative costs when giving a gift to the VA! 100% of your donation is used for the benefit of our nation's Veterans and their families.

Q: Is my donation tax-deductible?

Yes. The VA is a government agency and, as such, your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Q: How else can my organization get involved?

In addition to the programs mentioned, VAVS can customize a program specifically for your organization. Whether you wish to make a one-time contribution or an ongoing commitment, we can use your help!

Building a Partnership with Community Organizations



Department of Veterans Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20420
OFFICIAL BUSINESS
Penalty for private use \$300

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Foundation

The Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) is the largest volunteer program in the Federal government.

VAVS was established in 1946 by a handful of Veterans and community organizations. With persistence and dedication, we have fostered a tradition of compassionate and effective health care service to Veterans. Primarily through a strong partnership with community organizations, such as yours, VA Voluntary Service has provided over 712 million hours of service to meet Veterans' health care needs. It is a foundation fostered by tradition.



Structure

VAVS is structured for the involvement of community organizations. As a member of our partnership, you would provide individual volunteers and group activities for the VA medical facilities nearest you.

We provide an orientation for your organization and training for your volunteers. Your organization would be appointed to the facility's Voluntary Service committee to provide support and guidance for patient-care initiatives. It is a structure that supports and encourages open communication, promoting a true partnership.

Transition

The Department of Veterans Affairs is strengthening its mission to provide quality health care, benefits, and customer satisfaction to over 23 million Veterans. VA is proud of its dedication and commitment to help Veterans receive the service they have earned.

Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteer opportunities available for groups and individuals include:

- Reception/Information Desk
- Escort
- Transportation
- Friendly visitors
- Greeters
- Recreational activities

There are also volunteer opportunities for groups and individuals with specialized skills in the areas of:

- Teaching/Training
- Recruitment
- Fundraising/Grant Writing
- Computer Technology
- Creative Arts
- Special Event Planning



Getting Started

VA will make it easy.

We will:

- Tailor a program for your organization
- Design opportunities for individuals or groups
- Utilize members' existing skills in rewarding ways
- Recognize volunteers' contributions



Together, we serve our nation's Veterans. Beyond volunteer involvement, your organization may choose to independently sponsor fundraising events on behalf of Veterans and their families for:

- Polytrauma Centers for Returning Soldiers
- Holiday Activities
- Recreational Outings
- Family Lodging
- Indigent Veterans
- VA National Events

Choose to Make a Difference!



Contact the Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Voluntary Service Office nearest you for more information on starting a partnership with VA.