

Buffalo Volunteer Opportunities

The Department of Veterans Affairs has an array of volunteer opportunities. Many assignments can be arranged to accommodate your schedule. Complimentary parking, meal tickets (with a minimum of four hours of service), and coffee and tea are provided for our volunteers.

Volunteer Transport Network (VTN)

The Volunteer Transportation Network drive sick and disabled Veterans to and from VA WNY Healthcare System for their appointments. These services have proven invaluable to Veterans. The VTN is always looking for volunteers to serve in two vital roles:

Administration

Duties: Assist in scheduling transportation for those Veterans in need of healthcare services.
Time Involved: Monday-Friday 6:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Drivers

Main / Hertel Day Treatment

Duties: Transport patients from home to the treatment center
Time Involved: Tuesday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Wed. - Sat. 8 a.m. - 9 a.m.

Buffalo Medical Center

Duties: Includes driving Veterans to and from appointments
Time Involved: Monday-Friday 6 a.m.- 2 p.m.

Cynthia Panasiewicz

862-8671

Cynthia.Panasiewicz@va.gov

Kelly Clark-Roberts

862-8672

Kelly.Clark@va.gov



<http://www.buffalo.va.gov/giving>
<http://www.facebook.com/VAWesternNY>

Adult Day Health Care

The Adult Day Health Care Unit enables Veterans to receive care in a safe, structured setting during the day. (located in Northtown Plaza)

Duties: Assisting with various activities such as games, socialization and baking an assortment of snacks and foods that the Veterans enjoy, Recreation, Physical and Occupational Therapy.

Time Involved: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Escort

Duties: Transporting patients and specimens to various areas within the hospital.

Time Involved: Monday-Friday 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Canteen Cafeteria

Duties: Assisting cafeteria staff with providing a friendly, clean and safe environment for patients. This may include assisting patients to their tables, cleaning off tables, washing meal trays, assist in food prep, etc.

Time Involved: Monday – Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Retail Store

Duties: Filling coolers, stocking shelves, assisting customers with shopping

Time Involved: Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Public Affairs

Duties: Volunteer will assist with internal communication. Posting flyers of community and medical center events on bulletin boards and in elevators. Reading and cutting out local publications about the VA WNY Healthcare System. Helping with events inside and outside the medical center.

Time Involved: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. -4 p.m.

Prosthetics

Duties: Help carry patient's equipment to their cars

Time Involved: Monday-Friday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m, when needed

Drink Cart

Duties: Making and serving coffee to patients and their families

Time involved: Monday - Friday 8 a.m.-11 a.m. & 12 p.m.- 2 p.m.

Book Cart

Duties: Taking the book cart to each nursing ward and waiting area and dispersing books to patients and their families

Time involved: Monday - Friday 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

Emergency Room

Duties: Volunteers assist the nursing staff with restocking supplies, delivering specimens to the laboratory and transporting patients by wheelchair

Time Involved: Monday - Sunday. Hours are flexible.

Engineering Department

Duties: Assist the engineering staff with answering phones, filing, data input using a variety of programs such as CAD, Excel, Word, etc.

Time Involved: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Food and Nutrition

Duties: Preparing patient meal trays, passing food, delivering trays to patients with food service workers, transporting supplies, opening and unwrapping food

Time Involved: Monday–Friday, (10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Lunch, 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. Dinner)

Health & Safety

Duties: May assist with special projects on inventory of equipment and safety checks throughout the medical center

Time Involved: Monday-Saturday 6 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Laundry

Duties: Folding and bagging linens

Time involved: Monday –Friday, (6:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)

*Flexible scheduling based on your availability

Homeless Program

Duties: Volunteers manage and disperse donated items, greeting patients, answering phones and filing

Time Involved: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. -4 p.m.

Infectious Disease

Duties: Assist the nursing staff by replenishing stocked items that aid in the spreading of infectious diseases

Time Involved: Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Nursing Areas (5C/7C)

Duties: Passing ice, making beds, sitting and talking to residents, assisting with restocking cupboards, straightening day room, watering plants, passing and updating magazines, assist with patient transfers and discharges, passing lap robes, helping with room set-up, passing out water under direction of charge nurse, passing out patient booklets, making copies, taking patients for a walk and assisting patients from evening activities, feeding and setting up patients for meals, and putting equipment away

Time Involved: Monday - Sunday (Mornings, Afternoons, Evenings)

*Flexible scheduling based on your availability

Physical Therapy

Duties: Transport patients, prep patient treatment areas and assemble prosthetics

Time Involved: Monday – Saturday; 7:30 a.m.-noon and 1 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Occupational Therapy

Duties: Assisting Occupational Therapy staff with answering phones, clerical work, as well as some patient interaction

Time Involved: Monday- Friday 9 a.m.-11:30 a.m. & 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

Recreation Therapy

Volunteers who wish to work with the Recreation Therapy have the exciting opportunity to have fun with the Veterans. Activities and events using volunteer support are:

- Card Tournaments
- Golf Tournaments
- Community outings
- Movie Nights
- Bingo Nights
- Buffalo Bills Tailgating Parties
- Various Adaptive Sports
- And much, much more!

Duties: Assists Recreation staff with recreational activities for patients

Time Involved: Sunday-Thursdays evenings

Women's Wellness Clinic

Duties: Answering phones, assemble information packets, file for clinical teams, prepare mailings, write acknowledgments and help with special events

Time Involved: Monday- Friday 8 a.m.- 4 p.m.

2013 National Veterans Golden Age Games

Duties: Assisting with National Veterans Golden Age Games in 2013.

To sign up please contact Kelly Clark-Roberts (716) 862-8672 or Cynthia Panasiewicz to be added to the list.

Time Involved: Monday - Friday 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m.