



- ✚ Now is the time with the upcoming holidays (Christmas, New Year's, Valentine's Day Feb., 2022 etc.) to contact a local Veterans Association, residential home or hospital, Domiciliary, Hoptel, Veteran outreach, Homeless, Veteran group home, etc., to see how many veterans are there. (Be sure to place all items in a plastic bag prior to taking to facility.)
- Often times there are **multiple older vets who either are hospitalized or in residence**, without family or friends around to keep them company during the holidays. Most of these centers plan fundraisers where you can further help. Contact them to see how you can best provide your service and time.
 - Reach out to local military hospitals where **disabled vets are in recovery**. Typically, there are pre-determined donation lists consisting of typical things which service members may need to aid in their recovery such as blankets, gloves, DVDs, cookies and home baked goods, socks, and much more
 - Start **making those holiday cards** and have ready to send ahead of time due to 3-day quarantine.
 - **Send letters** for the holidays to let the Veterans know we are thinking of them and wish them a blessed holiday.
 - Call the VA facility if you can get involved with the **Veterans voice writing project** and get their stories heard.
 - **Send Veterans a tape** with Christmas music, or talk tapes, stories, books etc. 
 - (Please check with facility) to see if **drive thru's** are allowed, ask if the veterans are allowed candy, **Holiday decorations**, gifts, ornaments, a fake tree for the room with battery lights (if ok with the facility)
 - **Caroling** => Auxiliaries can sing Christmas carols for the Veterans outside the facility. Sponsor a children's group, Scout group, or church group etc. check if able to do caroling. 
 - **Decorate a paper bag** for any one of the Holiday's and place pencil, note pad, cards, calendar, etc., in the bag.
 - Make a "**Hope Box**" of personal belongings for the Veteran to show all his/her accomplishments and worth.
 - Fill **Holiday baskets** with needed items (**check the wish list of items that Veterans may need**)
 - **Sewing items** are always needed and appreciated. See Hospital site for patterns. Lap covers, blankets, etc.
 - Make **shadow boxes** for the Veterans, purchase or make shawls or obtain poinsettias for women veterans or place on a table at a Veterans facility, games, puzzles, magazines, purchase cards and/or stamps for cards, personalize a toy, game, therapeutic kits, or veterans like the model cars etc.
 - **Don't forget the women veterans** and send goodie bags of personal items, bathrobe, slippers, etc. Female veterans need new jogging pants, sweatshirts, jogging shirts, sweaters all sizes.

✚ Now is the time to **Donate to Hospital projects** for the Holidays– write check out to VFWA – WI; earmark **Hospital Projects**, and **mail** the check to Lenore Otto 1383 W Wisconsin Ave Oconomowoc, WI 53066. The money will go for needed items per Reps/Depts. Remember this will help with holiday programs, and gifts for veterans at Christmas!

✚ Please remember to look at your year end reports to be sure you are focused on the required items. There is \$20 total for awards. **\$6** will go for the most completed project for Valentine's week 2022, (drive through, hosted an event, or party, made valentine cards, sewing items, etc.) **\$4** for most donation to hospital projects, **\$4** for the most volunteers (new and old), **\$4** for aux/members participation in Honors escort program or educated VA or non-VA facilities, community, VFW Post, thru social media, etc.), **\$2** auxiliary that hosted an event, educated, placed on social media or participated in Women's health education (hot line #'s, donations, clothes, community education for women's VA health program, etc.)



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