

VFW Auxiliary members have been working to meet the needs of hospitalized veterans in VA Medical Centers and other medical facilities since the organization's inception in 1914. Volunteers have numerous hours annually to support the programs.

❖ The Hospital Programs:

- Promotes volunteerism and recognition for volunteers
 - Promotes Veterans Voices (VVWP) Veterans Voices Writing Project
 - A national non-profit organization, provides a way for every Veteran to express themselves by utilizing therapeutic writing to rehabilitate Veterans. This program helps our Veterans express themselves and communicate. It has been shown to help manage their PTSD symptoms and reduce the risk of suicide. To learn more, visit their website: <http://www.veteransvoices.org>
 - Promotes Veteran and Military Suicide Awareness and Prevention
 - **SUPPORT & RESOURCES**
 - Veterans Crisis Line: Call: 1.800.273.8255 press 1; Text: 83855; Chat: www.veteranscrisisline.net
 - Help Heal Veterans (Therapeutic Craft Kits): www.healvets.org
 - Patients Like Me: www.patientslikeme.com/join/vfw
- ❖ Hospital Projects funds are used for all special occasions throughout the year for our Veterans and their families (Veterans' day, New Year, Salute to veterans, Halloween etc.) and special projects that our Reps and Deps have at their facilities. Please **Donate** to the Department Hospital Fund to assure continued strong support for these important programs. Money donated for hospital work and any fund raisers over the year raised for hospital work to write **check to VFWA – WI and earmark "Hospital Projects."** Mail check to Lenore Otto 1383 W Wisconsin Ave, Oconomowoc, WI 53066-2666
- ❖ If unable to volunteer, Auxiliaries can have fund raisers to donate money, purchase clothes, sew, make cards (show your creativity) & gift bags, involve girl/boy scouts/community youth, etc.
- ❖ Update from National Ambassador: Office of research and development, and SWAP corner
 - **NEW! NEW! NEW! VA OFFICE OF RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT**
 - Veterans' health and wellbeing has expanded in recent years
 - Qualified investigators use their scientific knowledge to develop care solutions for our Veterans
 - Get your fact sheet at www.research.va.gov
 - **SWAP CORNER (Other examples for Auxiliaries if unable to volunteer)**
 - Share Wonderful Auxiliary Projects During these hot days of summer, observe and be aware of your Hospital and Clinics' needs. For example: A Hospital was having a problem with their water fountains and the Auxiliary stepped up and provided bottle water to this Hospital and contacted their State Congressman about the problem. This is only one of many ways Auxiliaries can help!

Reminder:

- **King day** August 17



"Giving Hope to Veterans and Families" by "Always Serving our Veterans"

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