

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R)

It's what we share
It's why we're here!

With 34 of our 86 Arizona Units reporting– just the 2023-2024 “Veteran and Military impact”:

- Over **220,000** volunteer hours. Using the National “VA value rate” of \$31.80, this represents over:
 - **\$7 million dollars in volunteer value!**
- Nearly \$400,000 in monetary donations+ \$70,000 “in-kind” donations (value of items donated)
- Over 32,000 Veterans/Military assisted

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Department of Arizona

Mission Impact:

**Honoring
Veterans**

Many Units
Wreaths Across
America
Dec 14th



Unit 62 Purple
Heart

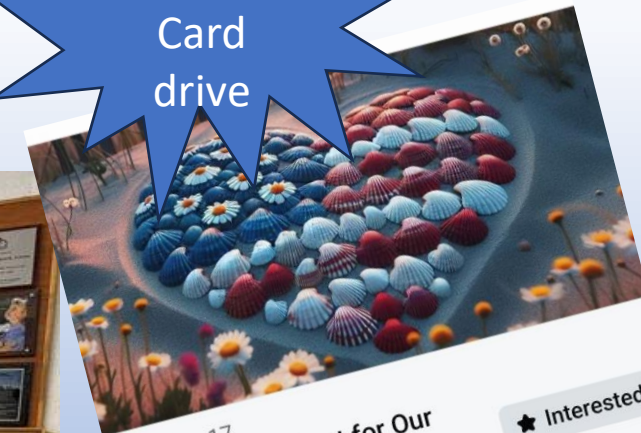


Unit 86 Air
Force B-day



Events *honoring Veterans*, in
or out of Post homes, make
an important impact that
counts!

Unit 16
Card
drive



Sat, Aug 17
Card Signing Event for Our
Veterans
Created for Ring Your Bell Arizona
ALA

★ Interested

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Mission Impact: Raising Funds/goods for Veterans

Events that *raise funds*
for veteran causes or
collect items of value for
veterans in or out of a
Post home count as
impact hours!

**Unit 16
Clothing
drive**

**Unit 44
VAMC**

**Unit 65
President's Special
Project**

**Unit 107
Auction**

Jul 20 · Burda
Bachelor Auction last night was very entertaining, lots of fun, laughs and friendship. Proceeds from the auction will go to a Veterans Facility. Thank you all for participating ❤️

Keeping Warm Donation Drive
Sponsored by American Legion Auxiliary
Unit #16-Bisbee, AZ

We are collecting items to keep our Tucson Veterans warm this winter. Items will be delivered in December.

ALL DONATIONS GO TO:
Carl T. Hayden
Veterans Administration
Medical Center
Cancer Care Department

Proceeds benefit :
POST 65
Commander Jarvis
Reddick's special
project VETERANS
ASSISTANCE FUND
&
AUXILIARY
Department
President Stacey
Mayberry's special
project P.A.W.S.S.

SHOW ME THE MONEY

Oct 24, Nov 14, Dec 12

We play 20 games
CHECK-IN
5:45PM-6:15PM

FIRST GAME BEGINS
AT 6:30PM
Cost : Call for Info

TRAVIS L WILLIAMS POST 65
1624 E. BROADWAY RD

**Mission impact:
 Supporting veteran
 events at your Post Home**

**Unit 66
 The Wall**



**Unit 27
 Standdown**



**Unit 29
 Wellness**

Hours spent setting up & supporting events at your Post Home that address veteran needs and well-being are hours that can be included in the veteran/military section of the impact report even if you are not the sponsor!

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**Mission Impact:
Supporting veteran
events out in the
community**

Unit 86
Fishers of
Men*



Unit 133
Pancake
Breakfast



Unit 27
Poppies

Don't forget to count your Juniors or non-member volunteer hours if they are supporting your contribution to veterans! Activities related to **Poppy** distribution count towards veteran hours too!



Unit 86
Holbrook
Standdown

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**Mission Impact:
Meet our
State Veteran
Home Chairmen!**



**Phoenix State Veterans Home
Chairman: Cat Ludwick**
cat4vets@gmail.com

Spend any time with Cat and you will feel her passion for veterans!! A member and volunteer for many organizations, she loves bringing people (and furry friends) together to meet the needs of veterans.



**Welcome
Flagstaff!**

**Yuma State Veterans Home
Chairman: Winnie Moir**
stoneywoodsouth@msn.com

Winnie and her husband, Bob, work together to meet the needs of veterans through any organization that will help them! Their current project is raising funds for a Purple Heart Wall at the State home.



**Tucson State Veterans Home
Chairman: Nancy Morrow**
alachairmansavht@gmail.com

Nancy, a 15 year member, loves everything Legion Family! She is a graduate of Legion College, held positions within District 2 and her Unit. If you are at a Legion Post, keep your eyes peeled, she's likely to show up!



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**Mission Impact:
State Veterans
Homes:
how you HAVE and
CAN help!**

Flagstaff State Home

Games
Snacks

Yuma State Home
Purple Heart Wall
Holiday parties



**Unit
62**



Phoenix State Home
Custom Recliners
Art event
Birthday Card delivery

FINANCIAL DONATIONS
Must go through
Department
Please identify location
and program

Tucson State Home

Clothes
Snacks
Games
Birthday parties

- Veteran visits
- Event assistance, bingo, birthday parties, art parties
- Cards
- Financial Contributions



**Unit
59**



**Unit
97**

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**More Mission Impact:
These hours count!**

Advancing the Legion Legislative Agenda for veterans

Public Relations efforts that are designed to engage the community in Veteran Causes

One on One assistance to a veteran:

- Home/care facility visits
- Transportation to medical appointments, shopping
- Budgets, tax preparation
- Recording Histories
- 10 Hours per week for taking care of Family Veterans/Servicemembers who live with you
- 5 Hours per week for taking care of Family Veterans/Servicemembers you don't live with





VA Medical Centers: Key component of the VA&R Program

Your photo
here?

We are looking
for a
Representative!



Prescott VA Medical Center
Deputy: Trish Aljets
patricia.aljets@hotmail.com

Trish moved to Arizona to take the position of Voluntary Service Manager at the Prescott VA. After retiring in 2020, she took on the role of volunteer VAVS Rep/Dep!

Her life's mission is simple - to make a difference in the lives of other people. Working at the VA, and now volunteering for the ALA, VA and VFW keeps her in touch with Veterans and helps her do just that.



Phoenix VA Medical Center
Chairman/Rep: Gloria Torres
glorious.6020az@gmail.com

Full of fun and smiles, Gloria is dedicated to helping Arizona veterans. Whether at her Unit or at the hospital, she brings joy to those she is assisting.



Tucson VA Medical Center
Chairman/Rep: Kathy Szakonyi
n3sad@aol.com

Just like in this photo, Kathy is always hands-on working for our veterans. She has racked up nearly 5,000 hours in the SAVAHCS!

Kathy was instrumental in starting the Tucson VAMC (and Sierra Vista) Patriot's Pantry— designed to help veterans with food insecurity.

Mission Impact: VAMC VA Voluntary Services

Congratulations
Marilyn Zabowski
Unit 36
2024 Volunteer of the Year
SAVAHCS

What Can Volunteers Do at the VA Medical Center?

Some examples:

Drivers
Clerical/computer
Information desk
Red Coat **Ambassadors** program
Outpatient assistance
Event Assistance
Patient Feeding
Education
Guest Relations
Chaplain Service

Registered Volunteers

Prescott

Trish Aljets
Juanita Moffitt
Lynn Sanford

Tucson

Kathy Szakonyi
Dawn Davidson
Sally Cady
Marcia Wohl
& Marilyn!

Phoenix

Gloria Torres
Sabrina Inguez



SAVAHCS Female Volunteer of the Year: Marilyn Zabowski has ensured Veterans feel comfortable and cared for through the In-Home Visitor Program. Marilyn's dedication is evident in her incredible 6,780+ volunteer hours since 2016.

Check in with the VAVS Representative in your area!



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Mission Impact:

Don't have time or live too far from [redacted] to volunteer? Contribute through your Unit!

The Tucson VA Community Living [redacted] always looking for prize sponsors. The Dementia Ward is looking for twin [redacted]

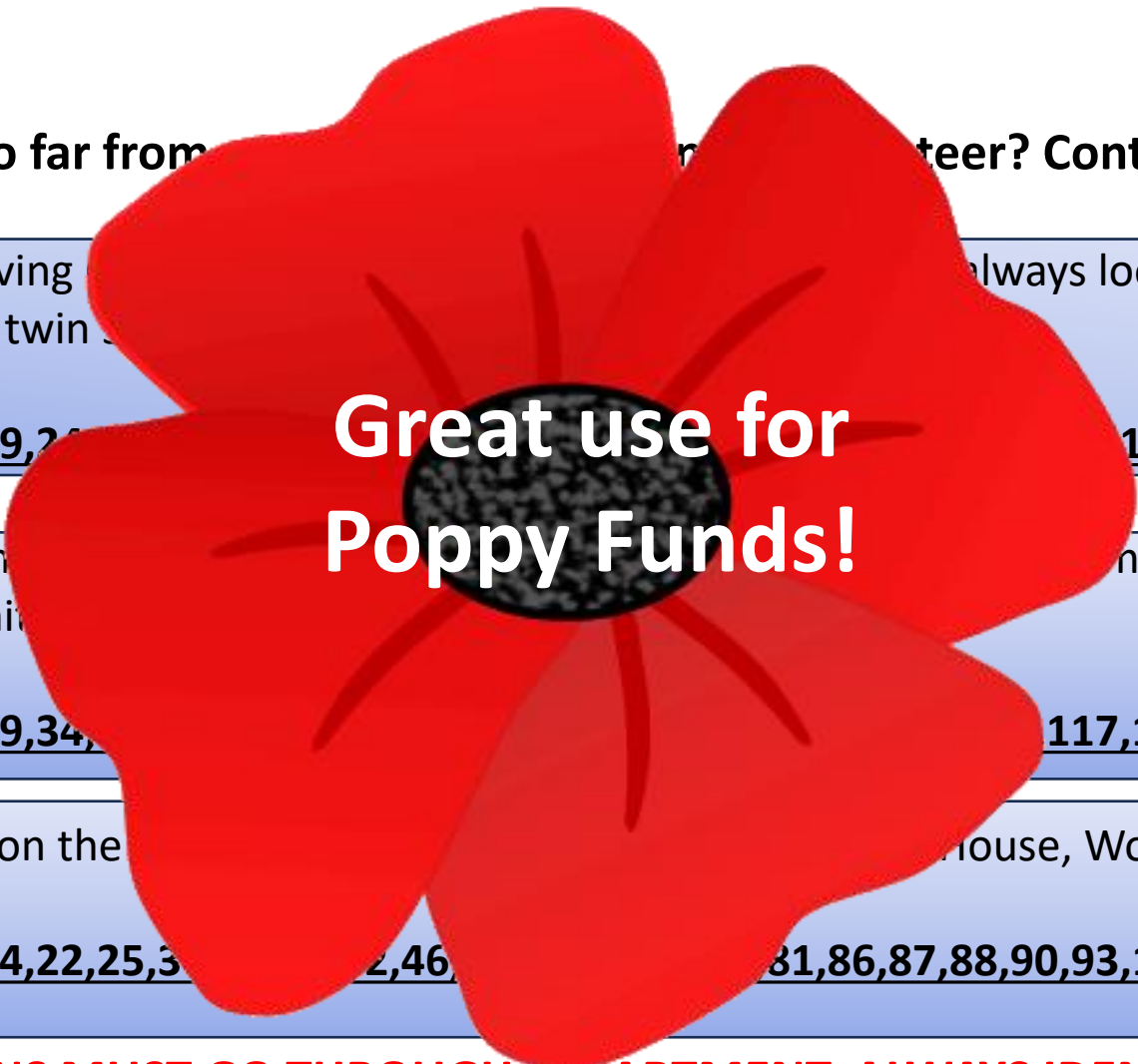
Units Assigned: 7,8,9,11,16,19,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100,101,102,103,104,105,106,107,108,109,110,111,112,113,114,115,116,117,118,119,120,121,122,123,124,125,126,127,128,129,130,131,132,133,134,135,136,137,138,139,140,141

The Phoenix VA wish list is on [redacted] men, Intimate Partner Abuse, Psychosocial Rehab, Communi [redacted]

Units Assigned: 1,2,5,26,27,29,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,82,83,84,85,86,87,88,89,90,91,92,93,94,95,96,97,98,99,100,101,102,103,104,105,106,107,108,109,110,111,112,113,114,115,116,117,118,119,120,121,122,123,124,125,126,127,128,129,130,131,132,133,134,135,136,137,138,139,140,141,142,143,144,145

The Prescott VA Needs list is on the [redacted] house, Women, Rec Therapy all have needs!

Units Assigned: 3,4,6,12,13,14,22,25,30,31,32,33,34,35,36,37,38,39,40,41,42,43,44,45,46,47,48,49,50,51,52,53,54,55,56,57,58,59,60,61,62,63,64,65,66,67,68,69,70,71,72,73,74,75,76,77,78,79,80,81,86,87,88,90,93,103,108,123,135,136,140



FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS MUST GO THROUGH DEPARTMENT. ALWAYS IDENTIFY LOCATION AND PROGRAM



VA Medical Center Gift Shops



Prescott VAMC
Chair: Trish Aljets
patricia.aljets@hotmail.com

December 18

Volunteers deliver gifts, treats and cheer to Community Living Center Residents

Domiciliary party with assembly line gift selection, food and entertainment.



Phoenix VAMC
Chair: Chris Paulson
ccpaulson45@gmail.com

Post 1
December 2-4

Veteran may shop for themselves and dependents living with them with music and treats

Team
Tucson

Tucson VAMC
Contact: Kathy Szakonyi
n3sad@aol.com

December 3-5

Traditional Gift Shop set up for hospitalized veterans and state home residents. Final day reserved for homeless veterans

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**Creative
Arts
Festivals**



Tucson VAMC VCAF
Chairman: Dawn Davidson
aladawndavidson@gmail.com

Dawn loves the creative process— and leads art activities whenever she can. Trained in social work, she is a great listener.



Overall Chairman
Anita Ritter
ritmar@cox.net

Anita has an impressive resume including several board positions! You might know her as Sergeant at Arms!



Prescott VAMC VCAF
Chairman: Sally Fine
mightyfine123@gmail.com

Along with her Unit, Sally led the effort to furnish the family lounge in the VAMC hospice wing! She and “her crew” enjoyed shopping in past years for the Gift Shop. Now she leads the Creative Arts Festival!



Phoenix VAMC VCAF
Chairman: Margaret Ellis
mellis3166@gmail.com

Many of you know Margaret for her beaded jewelry. Through her beadwork she understands the healing benefit of creating art, whether it is music, writing, performing, or visual arts. Margaret enjoys watching the accomplishments of veterans through the arts.



Mixed media

Crochet

Monochromatic
Drawing

Woodworking

A poster for the National Veterans Creative Arts Competition, 18th Annual. The poster is on a black easel and features a colorful star logo at the top. The text on the poster includes the event name, date, location, time, and contact information. A yellow banner with red text is overlaid on the poster.

NATIONAL VETERANS
**CREATIVE ARTS
COMPETITION**

**Phoenix VA 18th Annual
CREATIVE ARTS
FESTIVAL**

Event Date: Thursday June 13th, 2024
Location: Recreation Therapy Topaz Clinic
Time: 10:00 am - 1:00 pm

To participate call 480-524-5036
between the hours of 9-11 a.m. or 1-2 p.m.
from June 3rd-14th, 2024

For info about categories and requirements visit:
www.creativeartsfestival.va.gov

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Health Administration Phoenix VA Health Care System AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Next Year, Be There!!!!

Surgical Specia
Beneficiary Tra
Copoly
Diamond Clinic
Emerald Clinic
Gold Clinic
Outpatient Pharm
Turquoise Clinic

ACC Conference Re
Compensation & P
Library
Neuropsychology
Nuclear Medicine /
Public Affairs/Medi
Recreational Therap
Topaz Clinic

Creative Writing

Diorama

Ceramics

Acrylic Painting

Quilting



Service to Veterans: One on One assistance to a veteran

- Home/care facility visits
- Transportation to medical appointments, shopping
- Budgets, tax preparation
- Recording Histories
- 10 Hours per week for taking care of Family Veterans/ Servicemembers who live with you
- 5 Hours per week for taking care of Family Veterans/ Servicemembers you don't live with

Individual Recognition

From Department

- Care Plaque— overall VA&R participation (in and out of the VAMC)
- We Also Care Plaque -- Service to Veterans participation (outside the VAMC)

From National-- Service Pins/Hour Bars

- VAMC Volunteer Hours (In the VAMC)
- Service to Veterans Hours (Outside the VAMC)

Units: report your member's Service to Veterans hours (monthly) to Sara Decker, Service to Veterans Chair. Service to Veterans is a subset of Impact Hours. You're collecting the information anyway, why not send this subset to Sara! Forms for members and Units are available under Member Resources, Service to Veterans on www.aladeptaz.org. Got questions? saradeckeraz@gmail.com

Unit Recognition

Department- Due May 1

Carmelite Staker Creative Arts Award– Activities supporting VCAF

Sandy Conklin Creative Arts- largest donation per capita

Lola M. Dunbar (members 150 and under)/Nellie M Baldwin (over 150)- well rounded VA&R program

Leona Proper Hospital Volunteers: Most New Hospital volunteers

Ethel M Jarvis Junior Service to Veterans- Junior award; due 3/31

Service to Veterans plaques (multiple based on Unit size)

National- Due June 1

- How do you support rehabilitation and healing of veterans through arts, crafts, and hobbies?
- How do you support veteran caregivers, family members, and survivors?
- How have you supported your local VA facility?
- How have you supported veterans and their families in the community by collaborating with external like-minded organizations such as Honor Flight, Quilts of Valor, Wreaths Across America etc.?
- What other opportunities have you taken to support your local veterans and their families in your community?





VA&R RESOURCES

Department of Arizona Social Media/Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/RingYourBellAZala>

Department of Arizona Website: aladeptaz.org

National ALA website: alaforveterans.org (member portal)

National VA&R Social Media/Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ALAVAR>

National ALA Academy: alaforveterans.org (member portal)

Wreaths Across America: WreathsAcrossAmerica.org

YOUR CHAIRMEN!!!!