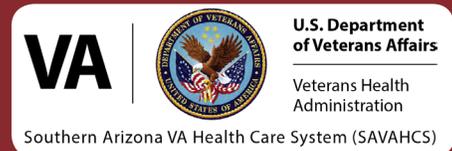


Volunteer Newsletter



Tucson, AZ • 1st Quarter 2020 • October - December 2019

DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS



Each day, I witness Southern Arizona VA Health Care System (SAVAHCS) employees and volunteers exemplify the I CARE values in their work through the many 'Thank You' letters and stories of Veteran centered care that come through my office.

As the holiday season approaches, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our volunteers for their unwavering dedication to the mission of our hospital.

We are able to provide consistent high quality care for our patients because our volunteers share with us their compassion, talents and devotion on a daily basis.

It is my personal and heartfelt wish that you and your loved ones enjoy a very Happy Holiday Season and a New Year filled with peace, love, and good health.

Thank you!

Katie A. Landwehr, MBA, FACHE
Acting Director
SAVAHCS

Thank You DAV!

On September 27, the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) donated a vehicle to the Volunteer Transportation Network. The van will be used to transport Veterans to their medical appointments at SAVAHCS. Thank you DAV!



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **December 18** (2:00 p.m.) Manhattan Dolls Holiday Performance, Auditorium, Bld. 4 ♦
- **December 20** (11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.) Director's Open House, Auditorium, Bld. 4
- **December 23** (9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.) Holiday Gift Assembly, Conference Room B, Bld. 4
- **December 24** (9:00 a.m.) Holiday Gift Distribution, Conference Room B, Bld. 4 ♦
- **January 2** (9:00 a.m.) Holiday Decoration Tear Down, Auditorium, Bld. 4 ♦
- **January 7** (1:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.) VAVS Executive Board Meeting, Rose Garden Conference Room, Bld. 4
- **January 22** (1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.) VAVS Committee Meeting, Auditorium, Bld. 4
- **February 9-15** National Salute to Veteran Patient Activities (TBD)
- **April 2** (4:00 p.m. -6:30 p.m.) Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet, Rose Garden *
- **April 7** (1:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.) VAVS Executive Board Meeting, Rose Garden Conference Room, Bld.4
- **April 29** (1:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.) VAVS Committee Meeting, Auditorium, Bld. 4

♦ Volunteers needed. Please contact the Voluntary Service Office, (520) 629-1822

* Reservation required

Volunteer ID Badge Reminder

All SAVAHCS regularly scheduled volunteers are required to wear their volunteer ID badge while working in their assigned volunteer position. Please be aware of when your badge expires and contact the Voluntary Service Office at (520) 629-1822 prior to the expiration date to schedule an appointment for your badge renewal.

U of A Student Engagement & Career Development

On September 7, students from the University of Arizona's Student Engagement & Career Development Program volunteered their time at the SAVAHCS Fisher House and Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center. At the Fisher House students decorated bags for the guests. At the Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center Veterans enjoyed a BBQ hosted by the students.



Women Veterans Art Exhibit

The VA Center for Women Veterans, VHA Women's Health Services, the Southern Arizona Arts and Cultural Alliance and SAVAHCS partnered to host a Women Veterans Art Exhibit on November 6-27 at the Cox Communication Corporate Building. Congratulations to all of our Women Veterans who participated!



National EY Connect Day

On October 4, employees from Earnst & Young participated in the National EY Connect Days. They partnered with the SAVAHCS Fisher House to make meals for the guests and hosted a coffee cart, ice cream social and craft activities with Veterans in the Community Living Center. Thank you to the employees from Earnst & Young and their service to our Veterans and their families!



Thanksgiving Luncheon

Voluntary Service hosted the Annual Volunteer Thanksgiving Luncheon on November 15. Thank you to the SAVAHCS employees who served the delicious meal.



Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center Visit

The Marana High School Football team enjoyed a visit with Veterans in the Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center.

The players hosted several recreation activities and spent time visiting with Veterans.



Thank You

Thank you to the DAV, Blind Veterans Chapter #1 for their donation of a Braille American Flag to the Southwestern Blind Rehabilitation Center.



Congratulations to Veterans and SAVAHCs volunteers Peter Bourret and Beau Gerard as National medal winners in the Veterans Creative Arts Festival. Mr. Bourret received the silver medal for creative writing and Mr. Gerard received the gold medal for classical piano. Congratulations to both!



Veteran's Day Activities



Thank you to the Combat Veteran Motorcycle Association for the donation of handmade canes for our Veterans in the Caregiver Support Program.



Volunteer Recognition Save the Date



1-800-273-8255 **PRESS 1**



Choose VA

Voluntary Service Newsletter Editorial Board

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- Mandy Martell, Chief, Voluntary Service
- Kimmy Kamerer, Voluntary Service Specialist
- Cathi Starr, Caregiver Support Volunteer Coordinator
- Jason Hastings
Program Support Assistant
- Rob Lester
Program Support Assistant
- Lisa Price, Assistant Director
Secretary
- Medical Media

This newsletter has been created to showcase the work of our volunteers and provide information about SAVAHCs and Voluntary Service programs.

We want to hear from you!

If you have any comments, questions, story ideas, etc., please contact:

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3601 S. 6th Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85723
(520) 629-1822 or email
Mandy.Martell@va.gov**

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