



**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
District 28
Connie Raya, Hospital Representative
Palo Alto/Menlo Park
VA Health Care System
September 18, 2022**

Marina Clinic, Miriam Fenwick Voluntary Service Specialist asked if District 28 American Legion Auxiliary would like to be involved on November 8, 2022, in the Country Store fundraiser by doing a Luncheon of meat loaf, vegetables, mash potatoes, gravy and cake only. This will be for the veterans, staff and public, at the cost of \$12.00 or \$15.00.

The money made, Miriam stated, that the overhead cost, preparers would receive it back, when receipts are turned in. The preparers also have a choice of donating the overhead cost to the Country Store fundraiser fund.

What is needed is where the food can be prepared, because the clinic cafeteria is closed and thing have been shut-off and parts have been removed. There will be a spot in the clinic can set-up and serve. The doors will be open at 8am for set-up and the fed will start at 11am and end at and at 2pm

Karol and Bob Adams will loan, their 2 Cambro's and 4 warmers with Sterno's. I do have roasters also. I will be able to supply, the plates, deserts saucers, napkins, forks, knives and spoons out of our District supplies.

The funds from Country Store will be blended, in the same pot from Palo Alto/Menlo Parks' Country store. They use this money to help Veterans in need, when there are requests.

Next, there will be a Silent Auction and of Gift Baskets and whatever you all think of to donate. Miriam needs **5 volunteers**, to help to set-up, clean-up and assisting of keeping an eye on the Auction.

Also, Miriam is accepting gift cards from Smart & Final only, for coffee supplies, snacks and etc. for the Coffee Room.

**American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
Connie Raya, Representative
VA Palo Alto/Menlo Park
Health Care Division**

Defenders Lodge Wish List (Up-Dated)

- Packaged nuts or Trail Mix bags
- Quaker Oat Meal Boxes, single pouch mixed favors.
- Quaker Oats Breakfast Bars Granola Bars and etc.
- Peanut Butter large and Jelly or Jam.
- Dry cereal's, Cornflake and etc.
- Individually package cookies like chocolates and etc.

Pull-Tops Can Goods

- Top Ramens soups, Cup of Soups and etc.
- Crackers individually packages
- Hot Dogs little wieners
- Spaghetti-O's, Raviolis and etc.

This is a up-dated list from Manager Harold Rucker (650) 493-5000 Ext. 62824.

If your Unit would like, I will be able to take your donation up to Palo Alto, either way an appointment needs to be made. My phone # is (831) 324-3733. If I do not ask, **please leave a message, thank You**

Please remember to put the **Defenders Lodge** at the top of the **Donation Sheet**, your Name/Unit number and District 28, and have it sign and make sure to keep a copy for your Unit and give me a copy as the Representative.

I collect all donation sheets from District 13, District 26, and District 28 for my report to Department VAR Chairman.

**American Legion Auxiliary
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VA Palo Alto/Menlo Park
Health Care Division
VAVS on 9-15-22**

William Ball, Chief, Center for Development & Civic Engagement (CDCE) started the meeting at 1pm. He first of all stated that the cafeteria is closed for remodel and that food can be bought at the Patriot Canteen Store. There will be Food Trucks and they will accept Food Vouchers except one truck.

He also brought up, the Regularly Scheduled volunteers is up to 773, from 539 from last report in May of 22. They do any office duty, that is asked for. Other, 412 RS are assigned to the non-patient areas.

Mr. Ball suggested, that we should get our Flue Shots and COVID SHOT.

Jocelyn Reyes-Pagsolgan, Supervisor, Recreation Therapy has updated the Recreation Therapy Wish List for this quarter.

She let us know, that how dedicated they are to our veterans as much as we (originations) are.

David Guldman, Director, Foundation of /Recovery Program (FOR) is requesting serval items.

Last of all presented was **COMPASSIONATE CONTACT CORPS** and their **Mission Statement:** **Compassionate Contact Corps** exists to support VA's mission to improve the wellbeing of Veterans through volunteers who provide weekly telephone and/or video contact, companionship and conversation in a friendly, compassionate and supportive interaction.

If any of you would like a copy Compassionate Contact Corps, let me know after the meeting.

All of this in your Unit Packets.

September 15, 2022

Recreation Therapy Service Wish List

Recreation Therapy Service is very appreciative of the support they receive from the volunteers of VA Palo Alto health Care System. We acknowledge the compassion you have shown to our Veterans. We are continually providing Recreation and Creative Art Therapy to our Veterans in all our programs as the pandemic continues.

If you would like to support our programs, please consider the following:

1. Spinal Cord Injury Center would like to receive the following streaming gift cards for the Veterans entertainment.

- GIFT CARDS:
 - Armadillo Willies BBQ - \$250-\$300 should cover the unit for a meal
 - Jersey Mike's Subs - \$250-\$300 should cover the unit for a meal
 - Panera Bread - \$250-\$300 should cover the unit for a meal
 - Costco – any amount!
- Every year, veterans from all over the nation are invited to attend a week long rehabilitation clinic to put into practice the skills they have learned throughout their rehab process. Veterans are given the opportunity to travel with VA Recreation Therapists to designated games (Winter Sports, Summer Sports, Wheelchair Games, etc). But not everyone can afford to go! **Donations made to our GPF 2276 help fund veterans who lack the resources to access these fun and life changing experiences. Please consider donating at any time throughout the year to assist veterans seeking new opportunities and learning!**

POC: Huy Diep, Recreation Therapist, SCI

Contact Info: 1-650-493-5000 X67538

Huy.Diep@va.gov

2. The Western Blind Center

- GIFT CARDS:
 - \$200 for Armadillos BBQ for WBRC.
 - Subway Sandwiches

POC: Teresa Boehm, Recreation Therapist

Contact Info: 1- 650-493-5000 x24602

Teresa.boehm@va.gov

3. Acute Inpatient Psychiatry Unit 520

- Slides Slippers (men's sizes 8-12)
- Duffle bags/large backpacks
- Costco gift cards

POC: Jessica Kellogg, Recreation Therapist

Contact Info: 1- 650-493-5000 x60056

Jessica.kellogg@va.gov

VAVS Meeting

September 15, 2022

Recreation Therapy Service Wish List

4. HUDVASH (Homeless Veterans) Community Programs

- GIFT CARDS:
 - Fandango Movie gift cards
 - Any restaurant gift cards
- Yoga mats and yoga blocks
- Upgraded computers for Veterans to use for online classes
- \$50 VISA gift cards for veterans who graduated from the PGA hope golf program and would like to attend some of the PGA golf events for veterans, but are unable to afford it.

POC: Jamie Armstrong, Recreation Therapist

Contact Info: 1- 650-50-54878

James.armstrong@va.gov

5. Polytrauma Rehabilitation Center/Comprehensive Rehabilitation Center

- GIFT CARDS:
 - Netflix gift cards for streaming movies
 - Any restaurant gift cards

POC: Sherri Heim, Recreation Therapist

Contact Info: 1- 650-493-5000 x66176

sherri.heim@va.gov

6. Employee Wellness Program

- \$100 Visa gift card for purchasing virtual reality programs for the Oculus headsets

POC: Jenna Holden, Employee Wellness Coordinator

Contact Info: 1- 650-493-5000 x69957

jenna.holden@va.gov

7. Polytrauma Transitional Rehabilitation Program

- Gift Cards for:
 - Costco
 - Target
 - Safeway
 - Walmart
- 3 swimming caps
- 20 sunglasses
- 15 hats/baseball caps
- 10 drawstrings back packs

POC: Jamie Eamiguel, Recreation Therapist

Contact Info: 1- 650-493-5000 x67124

jamie.eamiguel@va.gov

Foundations of Recovery: 520AFOR

September 2022

Contact information: Colleen Reilly, ext. 69985 or colleen.reilly2@va.gov and David Guldmann ext. 67956.

Item	Webpage	Amount need	Why
Gift card to Costco or Safeway or Smart n Final		As many as possible	Gift card to be able to provide food for special events and holiday's on the unit and BBQ on the unit for the veterans
Gift card to Costco, Target, Walmart or Amazon		As many as possible	Gift cards will allow the program to purchase items to be given to the veterans at Christmas time since they will be away from family and friends
Felipe Varela 65L Duffle Bag with Shoes Compartment and Adjustable Strap ,Foldable Travel Duffel Bags for Men Women, Waterproof Duffel Bags	Amazon https://www.amazon.com/Felipe-Varela-Compartment-Adjustable-Waterproof/dp/B09C7WQ123/ref=sr_1_3_sspa?crid=275OVNA28E7E6&keywords=duffle+bags+for+men&qid=1637189753&srefix=duffle+bags%2Cap%2C1100&sr=8-3-spons&psc=1&spLa=ZW5jcnlwdGVKUXVhbGlnaWVyPUEwTVJCOVdPOEQONkVOJmVuY3J5cHRIZEIKPUEwMDk1MzYzMzJDN0laT01MUzRKOSZlbnNyeXB	30 to as many as possible	These bags or a similar bag will be used to put items into so that they may be given to the veterans at Christmas time. The bag can then be used by the veteran in many different ways including a way to take their belongings with them when they complete this program. In addition many of the veterans come in with very limited items. This will assist them with some clothes while here but also for them to be able to take their belongings in a bag when they leave as many times they end up taking their stuff in garbage bags if we don't have bags or ones that are big enough

Waterproof Duffel Bags	kVOjmVuY3J5cHRIZEIkPUeWMDk1MzYzMzJDN0laT01MUzRKOSZlbnNyexBOZWRBZEIkPUeWNTc1MzYxMUdLRkg3VlIYUEhSRiZ3aWRnZXROYW1lPjNwX2FOZiZlY3Rpb249Y2xpY2tSZWRpcmVjdCZkb05vdExvZ0NsaWNrPXRydWU=		
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Other Items	Amazon, Target, Walmart or etc.		
Hair trimming set	Amazon - Wahl Clipper Rechargeable Cord/Cordless Haircutting & Trimming Kit for Heads, Beards, & All Body Grooming - Model 79434	2	Veterans ask to be able to cut their hair as there is no place on campus they can go. The current set the program has is broken and no longer works

Kitchen items	Smart N Final or other places		
Reusable plastic plates and bowls that are microwavable	Amazon - Grow Forward Premium Wheat Straw Dinnerware Sets - 8 Piece Unbreakable Microwave Safe Dishes - Reusable Wheat Straw Plates and Bowls Sets - Wheat Straw Bowls	4	The program has the ability to cook but the plates the program has have broken and veterans are requesting to have new ones

Or something similar	OZWRBZEIkPUeWNTc1MzYxMUdLRkg3 ViiYUEhSRIZ3aWRnZXROYW1IPXNwX2 FOZiZhY3Rpb249Y2xpY2tsZWRpcmVjd CZkb05vdExvZONsaWNrPXRydWU=	30 or more Sizes M-L-XL- 2XL	Sweatshirts can be used a gift given to the veterans at Christmas time as many of the veterans will be away from their family or friends. In addition many of the veterans come in with very limited items. This will assist them with some clothes while here
Sweatshirts	Target, Walmart or Amazon		

Clothing and bags	Target or places similar		Many of the veterans come in with very limited items. This will assist them with some clothes while here but also for them to be able to take their belongings in a bag when they leave as many times they end up taking their stuff in garbage bags if we don't have bags or ones that are big enough
Sweat Pants	Target, Walmart or Amazon	30 or more Sizes M-L-XL- 2XL	Many of the veterans don't have any clothing or limited.

Sweat Shirts	Target, Walmart or Amazon	30 or more Sizes M-L-XL-2XL	Many of the veterans don't have any clothing or limited.
Men's Underwear and Women's	Target, Walmart or Amazon	Variety of sizes Boxers, briefs and boxer briefs As many as possible	Many of the veterans don't have any clothing or limited.
Men's and women's flip flops	Target, Walmart, Amazon	As many as possible and various sizes	Many veteran's ask for them to use in the shower or when going to the pool or to just walk around the unit
Felipe Varela 65L Duffle Bag with Shoes Compartment and Adjustable Strap ,Foldable Travel Duffel Bags for Men Women,	Amazon https://www.amazon.com/Felipe-Varela-Compartment-Adjustable-Waterproof/dp/B09C7WQ123/ref=sr_1_3_sspa?crid=275OVNA28E7E6&keywords=duffle+bags+for+men&qid=1637189753&spreffix=duffle+bags%2Cap s%2C1100&sr=8-3-spons&psc=1&spLa=ZW5jcnlwdGVkUXVhbGlmaWVyPUExTVJCOVdPOEQ0N	30 As many as possible	Many of the veterans do not have anything to carry their belonging in

safe and dishwasher safe	for Cereal, Soup, Camping, RV - Glacier		
Coffee filters – Coffee Filters for 12 cup pots, size 4.375 inches	Smart N Final	5 packs	Coffee filters are always needed so the veterans can make coffee



American Legion Auxiliary
Department of California
Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
VA Palo Alto/Menlo Park Division
August 2022

To All:

The following information was given to me by Michelle Soares, past District 28 President and Palo Alto VA Hospital Deputy who now resides in Texas.

HealVets Program

The organization HealVets.org provides craft kits to veterans free of charge. Craft kits can be requested for in-home use by a veteran directly or by a veteran's facility.

HealVets carries hundreds of various craft kits that fall within four primary categories—woodworking, leather, painting and scale modeling. **The kits are 100% free, including shipping costs.** HealVets kits range in difficulty from level 1 to level 4 (1 being the simplest).

Each kit comes with a thank-you postcard, allowing the veteran to write a personal note of thanks directly to the donor. We pay the postage, so once card(s) are completed, they may be picked up by your postal carrier or dropped into any USPS mailbox.

If you, a veteran you know, or your facility is interested in becoming a recipient of Heal Vets arts and crafts kits, please visit www.HealVets.org and complete the form on the website to request kits. Once your request has been reviewed, staff will contact you to discuss your individual needs.

Eligibility

All U.S. veterans and members of the military who received any medical or nursing care within the last six months at any medical or nursing home care facility¹ are eligible.

What is required to enroll in this program?

- Proof that you are a veteran or a member of the military²; and
- Proof of any medical or nursing care received within the last six months³.

If the above conditions are met, complete the online form. Submissions may also be made via email at info@healvets.org or mail to: Attn. PHR Department, Help Heal Veterans, 36585 Penfield Lane, Winchester CA 92596.

How much does it cost?

There is never a cost to receive HealVets arts and crafts kits. Our generous HealVets donors already paid for all product and shipping costs.



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
 Palo Alto Health Care System
 3801 Miranda Avenue
 Palo Alto, CA 94304

In Reply Refer To: 640/135

Date

 Name (Please Print)

 Address (Please Print)

 City (Please Print)

State

Zipcode

 Organization (Please Print)

Dear Donor:

This is the official acknowledgement of your donation of the item(s) described below:

Your estimate of the value of this donation is: \$ _____

On behalf of the VA Palo Alto Health System staff, and our hospitalized Veterans, thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely yours,

 Voluntary Service Staff

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Department of California

Veterans Affairs Rehabilitation

Donation Valuation - 2020-2021

NO CHANGES

Suggested Valuation of Items Donated to Facilities or Stand Downs			Gently Worn and New Clothing	
Item	Value	Hours	Men's Clothing	Value
Afghans 4x4 - knit or crochet	\$ 75.00	60	Backpacks, new	Your Cost
Afghans 4x6 - knit or crochet	\$ 85.00	75	Backpacks, used	\$ 5.00
Afghan - twin size	\$200.00	120	Belts	\$ 5.00
Arm Slings	\$ 10.00	80 min	Gloves/mittens, used	\$ 2.00
Audio Books, DVDs, CDs	\$ 3.00	0	Hats/beanies	\$ 2.00
Bibs, suitable fabric 18"x30" toweling	\$ 5.00	1	Jackets/coats	\$ 20.00
Bibs, suitable fabric 18"x44" toweling	\$ 10.00	1	Jeans	\$ 10.00
Books, comics - used	\$ 0.50	0	Robes	\$ 7.00
Books, hard cover, used	\$ 5.00	0	Shirt, Jacket	\$ 5.00
Books, pocket, used	\$ 3.00	0	Shirts, casual	\$ 2.00
Breads, desserts	\$ 6.00	2	Shirts, dress	\$ 3.00
Breathers, crochet (tracheotomy/lint free material)	\$ 7.00	4	Shoes	\$ 4.00
Cakes and cookies, store bought	Your Cost	0	Shorts, walking	\$ 3.00
Cakes, layered, homemade	\$ 8.00	2	Slacks	\$ 5.00
Cakes, sheet 9' x 11", homemade	\$ 7.00	2	Sleeping bags, new	Your Cost
Cookies per dozen, homemade	\$ 4.00	30 min	Sleeping bags, used	\$ 20.00
Cupcakes, homemade	\$ 6.00	30 min	Suits	\$ 35.00
Deviled eggs, per dozen	\$ 5.00	1	Suspenders	\$ 1.00
Hotel size personal items	\$ 1.00	0	Sweat pants	\$ 4.00
Lab robes, 3' x 6' fire retardant machine made	\$ 40.00	10	Sweat Suits/Long Johns	\$ 7.50
Lap robes, 4' x 6' quilted	\$ 50.00	15	Sweaters, knit	\$ 15.00
Lap robes 54" x 54" double flannel quilted	\$ 85.00	15	Sweatshirts	\$ 4.00
Lap robes, fleece 4' x 4'	\$ 10.00	4	T-shirt, new	Your Cost
Lap robes, fleece 4' x 6'	\$ 15.00	6	T-shirt, used	\$ 3.00
Twin Size Quilts	\$ 200.00	30	Women's Clothing	
Magazines, National Geographic, 1-6 months old	\$ 1.00	0	Blouses, casual	\$ 2.00
Magazines, new and subscription	Your Cost	0	Blouses, dressy	\$ 5.00
Pie, 9" homemade	\$ 15.00	2	Coats	\$ 15.00
Pie, store bought	Your Cost	0	Jackets, all	\$ 15.00
Pillow-Hug, 12" x 12" vinyl covered	\$ 12.00	3	Purses	\$ 2.00
Pillow - Peanut Neck Roll	\$ 6.00	2	Shoes, casual	\$ 5.00
Sandwiches, loaf of 10	\$ 20.00	1	Shoes, dressy	\$ 10.00
Scarves crochet/knit 8" x 48"	\$ 10.00	6	Skirts	\$ 5.00
Scarf (scarves) store bought	Your Cost	0	Suits	\$ 35.00
Slippers, knit, long	\$ 8.00	5	Sweaters, knit	\$ 15.00
Slippers', knit, low	\$ 6.00	4	<i>For similar items as men's, use figures as stated above</i>	
Stocking cap, knit/crochet 4 ply #8 needles	\$ 8.00	2		
Stump covers (minimum 15", 4 ply #8 needles)	\$ 18.00	2		
Urinal bag covers	\$ 4.00	1	Children's Clothing	
Urinal bag covers, 8' x 10'	\$ 3.00	1	Pants, tops, sleepers	\$ 5.00
Utility Bag 12" x 15"	\$ 4.00	1	Shoes	\$ 3.00
Utility Bag 15" x 18"	\$ 5.00	1		

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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY
Department of California
Veterans Affairs Rehabilitation
Donation Valuation - 2020-2021

Walker Bags	\$ 15.00	5		
Wheel Chair bags, heavy, 18" x 24"	\$ 20.00	5		
Wheel Chair bags, small/arm 18" x 6"	\$ 10.00	2		