

Announcements

Volunteer Opportunities

Nursing Assistant Positions Monday 9 am to 1 pm; Friday 9am– 3 pm

Reception Assistant Ambulatory Friday 8am– 11:30 am

Cardiology Clinic

Tuesday 9am to 2 pm

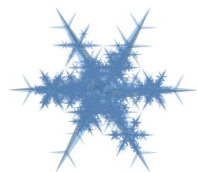
Emergency Department

Tuesday and Friday 12pm– 4 pm

VAVS Committee Meeting

The next VAVS Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 23, 2017 at 2pm in the 3rd floor auditorium.

Please contact Voluntary Service if your Service Organization would like to sponsor refreshments for this meeting.



Holiday Notice

The medical center will be closed on the following holidays:

Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Monday, January. 16, 2017

President's Day
Monday, Feb. 20, 2017

Memorial Day
Monday, May 29, 2017

Independence Day
Tuesday, July 4, 2017



Work Study Employee



We would like to welcome back Ms. Jessica Geiger to Voluntary Service. Jess completed her undergraduate internship with Voluntary Service in the summer of 2015. She was a HUGE asset to Voluntary Service and we are excited to welcome her back. Jess is now pursuing her Masters in Social Work from the University of North Dakota and will be working in Voluntary Service once again through the work study program. Jess will be with us 3 days a week during the school term beginning in January.

Please stop in to welcome back Ms. Geiger or to introduce yourself if you have not had a chance to meet her!



Voluntary Service –Fargo VA Health Care System

Message from the Chief



Karinn Davidson, MBA
Chief, Voluntary Service
VISN 23 VAVS Liaison
Preventive Ethics
Coordinator



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Hello wonderful volunteers. I sincerely hope you had a special holiday season full of fun, family and friends.

Traditionally the holiday season is by far the busiest time of year for Voluntary Service. Jess and I were extremely lucky to have some additional help this year. Many of you met Marshall when you were at the facility. He is a CNA in Mental Health but was recovering from some surgery that prevented him from completing his regular duties. The loss to Mental Health was our gain during the holiday season. It was extremely nice to have an additional set of hands during a busy time.

The volunteer parking lot construction is complete. New yellow signs have been placed in that area indicating that the spaces are strictly reserved for volunteers Monday– Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Any unfilled spaces after 1:30 p.m. are considered open parking.

We were extremely fortunate that the redesign of the volunteer parking lot resulted in a net gain of two spaces. Engineering and the facility were very kind to provide those additional spaces to our volunteers.

You were all so wonderful about parking in employee parking and other

areas during the construction that I wanted to take the opportunity to encourage you to return to using the volunteer lot before other utilizing other options. Due to parking difficulties all over the facility, it is important to show that the volunteer lot is being utilized in the most efficient manner possible. We would like to avoid being asked to give up spaces.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to ask!

Once again, thank you for everything you do. I'm so very proud to be working with each and every one of you!

— Karinn



Specialist's Corner

Volunteer Spotlight

Ann Schulte



Jessica M. Hed
VS Specialist

Ann grew up in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. She worked at Pillsbury for over 20 years in the accounting department. She resided in Minneapolis/St. Paul for over 30 years and came to Fargo, ND 8 years ago.

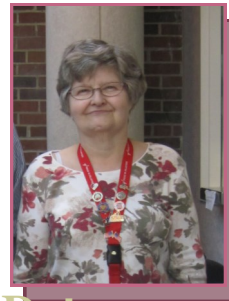
She has been volunteering at the Fargo VA since, December 8, 2008. Ann volunteers at the

greeter's desk; greeting and providing directions to each patient that walks into the medical center. She also brings around the book cart to inpatients and disperses books and magazines around to the outpatient waiting rooms.

Ann has volunteered over 4,700 hours! When not volunteering at the Fargo VA, you can usually find Ann

reading into a good book, riding her bike, sewing and going for long walks.

Thanks for all you do, Ann!



Recognition Banquet Save the Date

The Volunteer Recognition Banquet has been scheduled for Thursday, April 13, 2017. This year's theme is **Volunteers are Shining Stars!**

Volunteers will enjoy an evening filled with

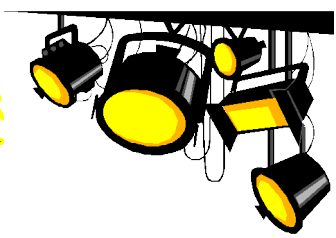
Hollywood glamour at it's finest!

All individuals who have volunteered 12 or

more hours in the past 12 months (an average of 1 hour per month) will receive an invitation to attend.

Invitations will be mailed out in March of this year.

We look forward to seeing you at this star studded affair!



National Salute to Veterans/Creative Arts Show



National Salute to Veterans week will be held the week of February 12th.

We are extremely excited to announce that Fargo VA Recreation Therapy and Voluntary Service will host our first Veterans Creative Arts show during National Salute to Veterans Week. The Art show will be held on February 15, 2017 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Art pieces will be judged by members of the local art community and winners will be submitted to compete in the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival.

Veterans who created an

art piece after April 1, 2016 may submit their work to be entered into the local Fargo VA Health Care System art show. Pieces can be from a variety of categories. A full listing of categories can be obtained from Recreational Therapy.

The deadline to submit artwork is February 6, 2017. All pieces must be brought in person to the VA art show on February 15th for setup between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

Art work will not be stored and VA is not responsible for unclaimed artwork at the end of the show.

For more information or

to submit a piece for entry, please contact **Recreational Therapy at: 701-239-3700 ext. 9-2094 or 9-3260.**

During National Salute to Veterans Week we will also again be asking our wonderful service organizations to sponsor a 1/2 day or full day to provide valentines and thank you gifts to outpatient Veterans. Service organizations can sign up for a time slot through their VAVS Committee representative.



Holiday Thank You!

We want to sincerely thank all the service organizations and individuals who worked extremely hard to ensure hospitalized Veterans felt appreciated this holiday season!

Veterans enjoyed a holiday party hosted by the VAVS Committee, visits from Santa and Mrs. Claus, Christmas Eve visits, carolers and countless numbers

of cards and holiday gifts. You all work so hard each day to honor Veterans. Please know that we appreciate you as much as you appreciate them!