

PARTICIPANT
SCREENING

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Caregiver's Name:

Relationship to veteran:

Veteran's Name:

Address:

City/State

Zip

Phone#

Email

Primary Care Provider

Are you interested in having a volunteer in your home?

YES NO

May we contact you?

YES NO

How would you like to be contacted?

Please mail or fax this screening form to the address on this brochure



Volunteer Caregiver Support Program

VA St. Louis Health Care System
1 Jefferson Barracks Dr. (135JB)
St. Louis, MO 63125
Attn: Maura Campbell

Phone: 314-322-6160

Fax: 314-894-6113

E-mail: maura.campbell2@va.gov

CAREGIVER
SUPPORT
NETWORK

Volunteer
Caregiver
Support Program

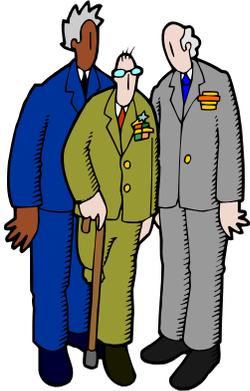


“Ensuring veterans receive the right care, in the right place, at the right time, and to make the home, whenever appropriate, into the preferred place of care.”

Office of Care
Coordination Mission



NEED FOR VOLUNTEER CAREGIVER SUPPORT



It is estimated that, by the year 2050 more than one out of every five people will be age 65 or older. Those over age 85 are the fastest growing segment of our population.

The rapidly changing demographics in the US will create health care needs for this aging populations that are unprecedented. Due to these trends our health care system, government programs, community based services and families will be greatly challenged. The number of veterans being treated in VA facilities has been increasing significantly and because the criteria for receiving VA nursing home care can be stringent the result is more veterans are being cared for in their home or that of a family member.

Additionally, returning veterans from the current conflicts in the middle east add a new demographic and dimension to VA health care. Many of these young veterans may eventually be care recipients with their parents or spouse serving as their primary caregiver.

Role of a Caregiver Support Volunteer

The purpose for Volunteer Caregiver Support is to assist veteran care recipients, their primary caregivers and their family in coping with the daily challenges of living with a chronic disease, illness, disability or condition of aging. Each volunteer will undergo a complete background check prior to being placed in a home. The volunteer will be someone from within your own community who will provide a much needed break up to 8 hours per week for the primary caregiver so they can renew their energy and spirit. They will provide support to the caregiver which will enhance the family's ability to care for the veteran in a familiar home setting.

The benefit for the primary caregiver is to receive some relief from the everyday burden of care giving and for the veteran it is to have an additional person to interact with. Your volunteer can:

- Read aloud from books, look through photos, write letters or memoirs
- Play games and work crafts
- Discuss current affairs
- Work on a collection or hobby
- Play music, watch TV or movies.

The volunteer will work with the caregiver to determine appropriate activities during the in-home orientation.

Limitations for the Caregiver Support Volunteer

Our Volunteers are not medical professionals but people who wish to offer support to veterans and their families in a home care setting. Therefore the volunteer will have certain limitations. Such as:

- Will not perform "hands on" or personal care services such as lifting or positioning the veteran, bathing, toileting or massage
- Can not give prescription or over-the-counter medications
- Will not perform any service they are not sure how or if they should do it
- Can not take veteran to the hospital even for appointments, if there is an emergency they will be instructed to call 911 for assistance
- Will not cash checks or sign documents
- Can not accept money or gifts of value
- Will not be allowed to run errands or shop for the veteran or their caregiver
- Can not perform any household tasks or home improvements
- Will not, under any circumstances transport the veteran in their personal vehicle