

**St. Louis VA Medical Center - Spinal Cord Injury Service
VA Heartland Network (VISN 15)**

Arts & Crafts Program

The Therapeutic Arts & Crafts Room is open 7 days a week. Its goal is to provide an outlet for your creativity. We believe that purposeful activity is a key element in successful readjustment to an injury or illness and that creating beautiful things nurtures the mind as well as the body.

The program is the brain child of Rebecca Ballard. Becky is an occupational therapist. Joining her are our occupational therapist Becky Siegel and our recreational therapists Matt Luitjohan and Amy Will. This team helps patients develop the skills necessary for artistic expression.

Veterans have the opportunity to explore multiple artistic media including:

Ceramics
Stained glass
Leather work
Weaving
Painting in oils and
acrylics



Our goal is to help you turn your interests and abilities into creative action. Most activities can be adapted. Some of the skills you will use include those you may just have rediscovered and developed with our colleagues in Occupational Therapy.

Typically even patients with high level injuries accomplish tasks they would not have thought possible, bringing them great satisfaction. Veterans have the opportunity to exhibit their work in the Local and National Creative Arts Festivals.

**Please contact us with questions or concerns:
314-652-4100 or 800-228-5459, ext 6-4512**

**Location: Jefferson Barracks, Building 52,
Spinal Cord Injury Service, Room 2S21**