



Minneapolis VA Health Care System Monetary Donation Suggestions

- *General Patient Fund* is used to support the various needs of our Veteran patients.
- *The Director's Veterans Food Pantry Fund* seeks to provide direct relief to Veterans who have food insecurity.
- *CRRC Fund* is used to assist homeless or at-risk Veterans receiving services through the Community Resource & Referral Center.
- *Patient Recreation Fund* supports Recreation and Creative Arts Therapy supplies, activities, and events.
- *Fisher House* provides a "home away from home" for family members of Veterans receiving care at MVAHCS.

Donations can be mailed to the address listed above. Contact us at vhaminvol@va.gov or 612-467-2050 with any questions.



For e-donate visit
https://www.cdceportal.va.gov/donate_online/

Gift Card Suggestions

Gift cards in \$10 to \$25 denominations or more can be used to assist Veterans for a variety of needs. These are used when other fund sources are not available to the Veteran, and there is an identified financial hardship impeding patient health care or access to care.

- GENERAL: Dollar General, Target, Walmart
- GROCERY: Aldi, Cub Foods, Hy-Vee
- GAS/FUEL: BP, Casey's, Holiday, Speedway
- TRANSPORTATION: Metro Transit, or Uber or Lyft
- AMERICAN EXPRESS, MASTERCARD or VISA

We can also receive monetary donations to the General Patient Fund, noted for purchasing gift cards for Veterans in need.

The Internal Revenue Service has announced that under the Tax Code, donations to the Department of Veterans Affairs' General Post Fund for exclusively public purposes are deductible from federal income taxes in the manner and to the extent allowable. This announcement reflects the tax law provision which makes those donations deductible as donations to the United States.



Minneapolis VA Health Care System Material Donation Suggestions

The following is a list of the items most needed during Fall 2023. Please contact us at 612-467-2050 or vhaminvol@va.gov with questions or to make a delivery appointment for donations.

- NEW Clothing, men's sizes Small through 2XL
 - Zip-up sweatshirts and drawstring-waist sweatpants or drawstring-waist long shorts
- NEW Men's slip-on shoes size 8-14
- NEW women's clothing – please contact us for more info
- Deodorant – regular or travel size, non-aerosol
- Neck pillows
- Coffee: ground or beans, regular or decaf
- Single-serve pre-packaged sandwich crackers, cookies or other snacks
- Bottled juice or bottled water: 6 oz. to 16 oz. bottles
- Pre-paid cell phones and plan cards; ex: Tracfone, Total Wireless
- Gift subscriptions to Reader's Digest, nature/outdoor or sports themed magazines (Mpls VA, CDCE 135, 1 Veterans Dr., Mpls., 55417)
- Universal phone and tablet chargers – wall chargers and cords
- JOY FOR ALL™ – Ageless Innovations Companion robotic dogs/cats



Needs lists with donation suggestions are also available at Amazon.com by choosing Registry & Gifting, and search for Minneapolis VA, Custom Gift List. We do not endorse Amazon, or any specific brand or vendor. Items listed represent things that fulfill patient needs or patient requests to best serve Veterans.



Interested in a donation project for your group or organization? Contact the Center for Development & Civic Engagement (CDCE) at 612-467-2050 or vhaminvol@va.gov for information and ideas for collecting items and packaging various kits for Veteran patients.



The Minneapolis VA Fisher House is a "home away from home" for families of Veterans and active-duty military personnel receiving care from the Minneapolis VAHCS. For the current Fisher House needs list, please contact the Fisher House Manager at 612-467-5602.



Minneapolis VA Health Care System
Center for Development & Civic Engagement (135)
One Veterans Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55417
612-467-2050 vhaminvol@va.gov



Minneapolis VA Food Pantry Project

Up to 24 % of all Veterans experience food insecurity at least once or on a recurring basis. This can lead to increased risk for disease and poor health management, increased mental health concerns, and more acute care utilization.

We are working on a food pantry at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center campus, to launch in early 2024. Veteran patients will be allowed to select food based on preference or need; the only criteria for a patient to participate is to state they do not have food at home. Food bags provided will also include nutrition and education resources such as recipes, MOVE information, community food pantries and SNAP information.

Additionally, we will be providing access to other services to address food insecurity such as social work services, COVID & flu shots, and housing information. Finally, increased interaction with this at-risk population of food insecure Veterans will improve our screening of them for outpatient, inpatient, and emergency department needs.

How you can help:

- *Monetary Donations to Minneapolis VA*
 - Donations needed to fund start-up and ongoing costs
 - Donate to “The Director’s Veterans Food Pantry Fund” GPF 8043
 - Send donations to: Minneapolis VA, CDCE (135),
One Veterans Drive, Minneapolis, MN 55417
- *Connect CDCE with possible pantry partners*
 - Organizations and individuals who have contacts with places to supply food. Rachel Hammer, CDCE Director is seeking possible source partners for supply of food pantry items.
- *Food donations to Minneapolis VA’s CRRC for Veterans in current need due to housing instability, food insecurity or financial instability*
 - CRRC has a list of most-needed items to stock their current food shelf at the Harmon Place location.
- *Volunteer:* Regular Food Pantry Volunteers will be needed for this project, and groups of Volunteers for distribution days.

Contact CDCE at vhaminvol@va.gov or 612-467-2050 for more information or to become a partner or volunteer.



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Volunteer Opportunities with MVAHCS

The Center for Development & Civic Engagement (CDCE), formerly Voluntary Service, has many volunteer opportunities available. Assignment descriptions for open opportunities are listed on VolunteerMatch.org by searching for Minneapolis VA.

Volunteers must pass a federal background check and commit to serving four hours per week for a minimum of six months. To become a Volunteer, please contact our office at 612-467-2050 to schedule an appointment.



Minneapolis VA Medical Center:

- Clinic Reception Support Volunteer
- First Impression – Coffee Cart, Curbside Assistant, Greeting/Wayfinding
- Inpatient Pharmacy Volunteer
- Inpatient Wards Supply Runner
- MyHealthVet Volunteer
- Palliative Care Unit Volunteer – Hospice and Last Watch
- Social Work Office Volunteer
- TruthPoint Patient Satisfaction Survey Volunteer
- CDCE Office Volunteer

Other Twin Cities area opportunities:

- Fort Snelling National Cemetery – Office Volunteer
- St. Paul Vet Center – Office Volunteer
- Homeless Programs Volunteer – Community Resource & Referral Center, Harmon Place, Minneapolis

Patient Transportation Drivers:

Most drive to Minneapolis; some drive in their local area only for VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics or VA Community Care appointments

- Minnesota: Anoka Co./Ramsey, Brown Co., Ely, Hibbing, Mankato, Olmstead Co./Rochester, Sibley Co., Virginia, Winona Co.
- Wisconsin: Chippewa Co., Eau Claire Co.

Group Volunteer Opportunities at Fisher House, Minneapolis VA:

- Contact the Fisher House Manager at 612-467-5602