

AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary Department of Michigan

LOCAL HOSPITAL OFFICER INSTRUCTIONS

2025 - 2026

#1 As the local Hospital Officer, it is your responsibility to maintain accurate records of volunteers, their hours, mileage, donations, etc.

#2 Read newsletters, bulletins, and check the website (www.amvetsauxdeptmi.org) for additional information from Department Officers. Each article can assist with your program. Share the information provided with your members by including it in the reports you give at your meetings.

#3 Hospital pins shall be given by the Department to AMVETS, Auxiliary members, Honorary members, Jr. AMVETS and Sons of AMVETS with 100 hospital hours of service.

#4 Hospital Hour Bars will be awarded, with the local Auxiliary paying half of the cost, for 300, 500, 1000, 1500, 2000, 2500 and 5000 hours. Certificates are awarded every 1,000 hours over the 2,500-hour bar.

- Hospital bars and pins are earned only by volunteering in a VA hospital, Nursing Home, Outpatient Clinic's called CBOC (community-based outpatient clinic) or a Satellite clinic. If you are a registered volunteer at a VAMC hospital or facility, your earned hours can be used toward the award. Your VAVS Representative has a record of them.
- Hours spent driving or working on home projects (example: crocheting lap robes, making tray favors, etc.) CANNOT be used towards hours for bars or pins.
- The name of all persons eligible to receive these awards must be sent to the Department Hospital Officer by March 1st and must be signed by the local Auxiliary President and the local Hospital Officer.

#5 Set up a notebook to record all work done by your Auxiliary members. It is much easier to fill out a report if you have an accurate record.

#6 All projects should have prior approval of the Auxiliary, be recorded in the minutes and be performed in the name of the AMVETS Ladies Auxiliary.

#7 One copy of your Mid-year Report is mailed OR emailed to the Department Hospital Officer, postmarked no later than November 5th of the current year. File a report even if you have "Nothing to Report at This Time".

- Your project reporting is included with all projects reported to your Department service officer and sent to the Department National Executive Committee Woman (NEC).
- The Department NEC sends the Department service officers reports to their National counterparts to be combined Nationally and reported by AMVETS to the US Congress to influence veterans-related legislative priorities.

#8 One copy of your annual (final) report is mailed OR emailed to the Department Hospital Officer, postmarked no later than May 5th of the current year.

- On your Final report, the first line on the project evaluation sheet, are your totals from your midyear report.
- Make sure you use any corrections that you received from the Department Hospital Officer.

#9 READ the Donors' Rules carefully and follow them to qualify for awards at the Department Convention.

- The Convention Digest with updated Donor Rules are mailed to your local President each March by the Department.
- Have them handy when filing your reports.

#10 Cash Donations: Be sure to claim Hospital Assessments paid to the Department at \$3.00 per member.

- A.** Try to send the \$3.00 Hospital assessment early so they can be claimed on your mid-year report. This is important to VAVS Representatives because they depend on this donation for their allotments which are used for their hospital programs.
- B.** Project sheets and Service Report Forms can be downloaded from the Department Auxiliary website and can be completed on your computer.

#11 Volunteer Opportunities: Palliative Care Unit - Chaplain Services - Escort - Outings - Information Desk - One-on-One Visits - Escort - Coffee program - Greeter - Special Activities - Recreational Activities.

#12 Suggested Donations: Toiletries - Crossword Puzzles - T-Shirts - Socks - New Underwear - Postage Stamps - current Books or Magazines - Jigsaw Puzzles - Lap Robes - Dept. Hospital Fund (cash) and specifically for:

- A.** VA Medical Centers: Canteen books - General Post Fund (cash)
- B.** State Veterans Homes: Individually wrapped Snacks, Cookies, Candy (not outdated). Most state homes NO LONGER ACCEPT used clothing
- C.** Check the specific VAMC or Michigan Home for the wish list which is available from your Auxiliary Hospital Representatives and/or is listed on the website.

#13 Suggested Projects:

- A.** Tray Favors - Holiday Parties - Picnics - Birthday parties - Dinners
Olympic Day - Carnivals - Ice Cream Social - Wi-Fi games - Bingo -

Ball Games - Adopt A Vet - Adopt A Ward - Play Board Games

Fishing - Derby - Card Games - Outing - Arts/Crafts - Picnics

B. Because We Care Day - Ward Parties - National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans

#14 Notify your VAVS and or Veterans Home Representative to schedule recreational activities and donations.

#15 Never purchase any equipment on your own. The Hospital knows best what is required and may be able to purchase items a lot cheaper.

#16 November is St Jude Children's month. The purpose of this special month is:

- To give our members a better understanding of our National programs through scheduled special activities and events.
- To obtain publicity in local newspapers, radio and television stations to make the community aware of the support we give to this program.
- To make an extra effort to raise funds for this program.

Reviewed and Revised by the Department Parliamentarian April 2025
