

**VA**



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

# News Release

Office of Public Affairs  
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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **VA encourages communities to support hospitalized Veterans during the holidays**

**WASHINGTON** – On this [GivingTuesday](#), the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) encourages community members, businesses and organizations to help support hospitalized Veterans throughout the country by doing what they can.

Each year, thousands of Veterans spend the holidays at VA inpatient facilities away from family and friends. These hospitalized Veterans made sacrifices for our freedom and we should give back by taking time to show our support.

“Please consider stopping by to visit or bring a homemade card to share holiday cheer with our Veterans while they are hospitalized. I have experienced firsthand the joy shared amongst people visiting our Veterans during the holidays. It really does make a difference while they are away from their families and loved ones.” stated Dr. Barbara Bates, Medical Director of the Aleda E. Lutz VAMC

Created in 2012, GivingTuesday is a global movement which inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate and celebrate generosity throughout the holidays. GivingTuesday also enables participants to turn good intentions into action.

[International Volunteer Day](#) is just around the corner, one way to give is through volunteer service. Volunteer Service has positions available for Shuttle Drivers, Red Vest Ambassadors and Veteran Escorts. For more information on volunteering with the Aleda E. Lutz VAMC, call 989-497-2500, Extension 13369.

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