Aleda E. Lutz Expresses Appreciation to Volunteers During National Volunteer Week

April 15 through 21 is National Volunteer Week and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will use the opportunity to thank more than 67,000 citizen volunteers who give back to Veterans every day at local VA medical facilities.

Locally, the Aleda E. Lutz VA in Saginaw will recognize the 256 volunteers for the 35,968 hours they contributed toward caring for Veterans, driving, directing, sitting, serving, comforting and counseling on a regular basis.

“Volunteers at our VA and throughout the 35 counties we serve do remarkable things for Veterans and our VA. From sitting with a Veteran nearing end of life, to traveling hundreds of miles to help transport a Veteran to his or her nearest VA appointment, they remain an important part of our VA health care team and we couldn’t provide the care and services we provide without them,” stated Karandeep Sraon, Acting Medical Center Director.

National Volunteer Week also presents an opportunity for other citizens to join the ranks of volunteers serving Veterans. There are as many ways to volunteer as there are willing people to do so. For instance, we have several volunteers who provide wheelchair escort services through the medical center and those who merely come in to greet Veterans or visit those who are in our Community Living Center. Also, Volunteers assist with recreational therapy activities, sponsor events, and donate money and items to help support a variety of needs.

“I have truly enjoyed my role at the VA serving as Chief, Voluntary Service. Working with such a dedicated group of individuals who assist Veterans and our VA every day has been so rewarding, they became extended family and I will treasure those relationships for a lifetime,” stated Jason Christianson. “Our VA is always welcoming new volunteers, so please get in touch with us to learn more.”

While National Volunteer Week kicks off April 15, VA is inviting everyone in the community to explore how they can use their skills and unique assets to thank Veterans.
with service of their own. No medical experience is necessary and volunteers are encouraged to share ideas how they would like to give back using their unique skills. To find opportunities, visit your nearest VA medical facility, call Voluntary Service at 989-497-2500, Ext. 13360, or visit www.volunteer.va.gov.

The Aleda E. Lutz VAMC in Saginaw, Michigan operates an 81-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation Community Living Center, with an additional 8-bed acute medicine and telemetry wing. It provides care to over 36,300 Veterans in a 35-county geographic area, from mid-Michigan to the Mackinac Bridge. Veterans also receive care at one of our nine VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics located throughout Michigan. More information about this VA can be found at www.saginaw.va.gov.

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