

STATE of MICHIGAN VFW

2025-2026 HOSPITAL and WELLNESS PROGRAM

Hospital Program Awards: For the Hospital and Wellness Program awards, the following Post membership divisions will be used. The following national membership divisions will be based on the June 30, 2025, National Membership Report.

Membership Divisions:

- I. 10 to 65 members
- II. 66 to 125 members
- III. 126 to 225 members
- IV. 226 members and over.

Program awards will be determined based on the Department Hospital Activity Report for the period ending June 30, 2026.

The three Posts with the highest combined monetary donations and equipment evaluations on the final Hospital Activity report will be recognized with awards presented at the first District meeting following State Convention. The 1st place Post will receive a plaque. The 2nd and 3rd place Posts will each receive a citation from the State Commander.

Each District that achieves 100% of Posts reported in at least one category on the final Hospital Activity report will receive a citation from the State Commander.

Program Activity Reporting:

Program reporting must be made by the 10th of each month for the preceding month for the reporting period May 1, 2025 thru June 30, 2026. There are many categories of activities that VFW Post members perform every day that are reportable under the Hospital and Wellness Program. They include:

- Blood donations
- Hospital equipment donations and loans
- Non-equipment donated items
- Members' donation of time, in person with veteran
- Members' donation of time, other than in person
- Monetary donations in support of community organizations
- Donations in kind, non-monetary
- Mileage traveled

The following are some examples of how these activities can be reported:

Blood Donations: Please report any blood donations (regular or double red) from Post Members. Also, if the Post hosts or helps facilitate a blood drive, please report the total number of pints collected from the effort, whether or not the blood is donated by a VFW Post member. The Director will award 1 Donated Blood Point (DBP) for each pint of blood donated.

1 Pint of Blood = 1DBP

1 DBP = 1 Worker / 1 Patient / 1 Hour

This means that if a Post reports that 30 pints of blood were donated during the reporting period, the Post will receive credit for 30 Workers, 30 Patients and 30 Hours. There is no limit for DBPs.

Equipment: Report on all medical equipment that the Post donates or has on loan during the reporting period. The Director will award 1 Equipment Point (EQP) for each piece of equipment on loan (50-point limit*).

1 Equipment Point = 1EQP

1 EQP = 1 Worker / 1 Patient / 1 Hour

This means that if a Post reports that 30 pieces of equipment were on loan during the reporting period, the Post will receive 30 Workers, 30 Patients, and 30 Hours. If you donate an item that isn't on the pre-populated list, please add the total dollar value for all types of items in the Other line in the Equipment section and annotate the items in the Description section of the report.

*There is a 50 EQP limit during a reporting period. This doesn't mean you can/should only report 50 pieces of equipment each month. The Post will still get full donation dollar value for every piece of equipment beyond 50, the Post is only limited to 50 EQPs.

Non-Hospital Equipment Items: Clothes, books, magazines, and toiletries are all reportable items. If you donate an item that isn't on the pre-populated list, please add the total dollar value for all types of items in the Other line of the Donations section and annotate the items in the Description section of the report. If your Post conducts a clothing drive, add the total dollar value to the Other line of the Donations section and annotate the items in the Description section of the report.

Donations of Time: If you spend any time checking on the well-being of Veterans or their dependents, you should report it. Whether you visit in-person or other than in-person with a Veteran or their dependents, you can report it. The minimum reportable time is one (1) hour; even if you spend less than an hour on your activity, please round up to one (1) hour.

In-Person: If you as a member go to the home, assisted living facility, hospital room, nursing home, rehabilitation facility, or even out for a meal with a Veteran or their dependents, you will want to report how much time you spent with them, how many miles you drove, and if you donated any item, the monetary value of the items. You should report your activities to your Post's Hospital Activities Chairperson.

EXAMPLE 1: You visited a friend in the hospital (assisted living or home) and brought them some goodies and a new book you knew they wanted to read. You ended up spending three hours there before going home.

WHAT TO REPORT: In this example, you would report that you (1 worker) visited 1 Patient, for 3 hours. You would also report the total miles driven to get to and from the hospital. You would also report the total dollar value of new books, and the goodies brought for your friend.

EXAMPLE 2: You were at your VA appointment the other day and visited 3 other Veterans while waiting to be seen by your doctor.

WHAT TO REPORT: In this example, you would report that you (1 worker) visited 3 Patients, for 3 hours. You would also report the total miles driven to get to and from the VA.

BOUNUS TIP: If you also buy coffee or lunch for Veterans while you're at your appointment, you can report the expense as a donation.

EXAMPLE 3: During the reporting period, you drove a Veteran to and from their physical rehabilitation appointment two times a week for three weeks. During each trip you bought the Veteran coffee on your way back home.

WHAT TO REPORT: This example is different from the others above. In this example you would report yourself as a worker for each time you drove the Veteran to their appointment. So, if you drove the Veteran two times a week for three weeks, you would report 6 Workers and 6 Patients. You would also report the total miles driven and the total dollar value for the coffee for each trip.

EXAMPLE 4: You volunteered 3 hours a week for 3 weeks and spoke with the same 5 Veterans at the community Homeless Shelter for the reporting period.

WHAT TO REPORT: You would report yourself as the worker for each instance that you went to the shelter, the 5 Veterans for each visit, and the miles for each trip back and forth. So, you would report 3 workers, 15 Patients, and 9 Hours plus the total mileage.

Other than In-Person: All the examples below are like example 3 above in that for each instance that you contact (call, text, email, message on social media or snail-mail) a Veteran or their dependents, you will want to report how many people you reached out to during the reporting period and give yourself: 1 Worker / 1 Patient / 1 Hour for each contact.

EXAMPLE 1: You called the home-bound widow of a Veteran 4 times during the reporting period to see how she was doing and to inquire if she needed anything brought to her.

WHAT TO REPORT: You would report yourself as a worker and the widow as a patient for each instance you called. So, you would report 4 Workers, 4 Patients, and 4 Hours.

EXAMPLE 2: You sent 10 get-well cards to Veterans known to be ill or in the hospital.

WHAT TO REPORT: You would report yourself as a worker and the Veteran as a patient for each card that you sent. So, you would report 10 Workers, 10 Patients, and 10 Hours. You would also report the cost of postage on the Other line of the Donations section and annotate the items in the Description section of the report.

EXAMPLE 3: You conduct buddy checks during each reporting period, and during this reporting period, you texted 20 Veterans and asked about their well-being.

WHAT TO REPORT: You would report yourself as a worker and the Veteran as a patient for each Buddy Check you conducted. So, you would report 20 Workers, 20 Patients, and 20 Hours.

Monetary Donations:

Monetary donations made to any of the organizations listed below or similar organizations, or by individual members of the Post, should be reported on the Other line of the Donations section and annotated with the items in the Description section of the report. Posts should also report the total dollar value of donating their hall to these organizations for fundraisers or functions. Please see the following example list of organizations.

Organizations:

VAVS: Veterans Affairs Volunteer Services at any VA Medical Center or State Veterans Home

The Fisher House

The Gold Star Mothers

Any of the State Veteran Homes Patient Recreational Funds

Community Hospital Programs

Local Nursing Homes

Local Assisted Living Facilities

The American Red Cross

The Salvation Army

The Volunteers of America

Local Councils on Aging

Hall Donations:

As stated in the examples above, the Post Hospital Activity Chairperson should report when the Post donates the hall for functions. Please see the following examples.

EXAMPLE 1: The Post voted to donate the hall to the Red Cross for blood drive. Four Post members volunteered to work at the five-hour event. The Red Cross collected 45 pints of blood (regular and double reds combined). The Post provided lunch for the staff and refreshments for those who donated blood.

WHAT TO REPORT: In this example, the Post Hospital Chairperson would report the total dollar value of the hall rental donation. If you normally charge customers \$600 for a five-hour rental, you will report the \$600. You would also report the total dollar value of the lunch and refreshments (\$250) and add it to the \$600 then enter that total (\$850) in the Other line of the Donations section and annotate the items in the Description section of the report. You would also report the four workers multiplied by the five hours of work (4 Workers / 20 Hours). You will also report the 45 pints of blood (Reminder: Each pint of blood is worth = 1 Donated Blood Point (DBP) and the Post will receive credit for 1 Worker / 1 Hour / 1 Patient, for each DBP).

EXAMPLE 2: The Post donated the hall for five hours for a Fisher House fundraiser. Post also donated the beer, soft drinks and mixers for cocktails. Three members of the Post volunteered to work at the event as bartenders.

WHAT TO REPORT: In this example, the Post Hospital Chairperson would report the total dollar value of the hall rental donation. If you normally charge customers \$600 for a five-hour rental, you will report the \$600. You would also report the total dollar value of the beer, soft drinks, and mixers (\$550) and add it to the \$600, then enter that total (\$1150) into the Other line of the Donations section and annotate the items in the Description section of the report. You would also report the 3 workers multiplied by the five work hours (3 Workers / 15 Hours).

IF AT ANY TIME, FOR ANY OF THE REPORTABLE ACTS & ITEMS, YOU ARE IN DOUBT ABOUT WHAT TO REPORT, JUST REPORT IT AND THE HOSPITAL REPORTS DIRECTOR WILL CONTACT YOU IF THERE ARE QUESTIONS.

Director, Aaron McClung
303 Prospect Ave
Ovid, MI 48866
904-864-3910
Aaron.mcclung.vfw@gmail.com

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