

HOME SERVICE
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"President Carol's theme of Awareness-Action-Auxiliary-Awards for this year strikes a cord for Home Service Volunteers, as we work hard to be Aware of our veterans needs and go into Action to make veterans everywhere more comfortable, through your requests for sewing assignments, tray favors and centerpieces.

Remember that Home Service volunteers' hours and expenses for projects include but are not limited to the following:

1. Sewing, knitting and crocheting comfort items such as bibs, booties, lap robes, etc.
2. Providing baked goods for special occasions such as holiday cookies, birthday cakes, etc.
3. Preparing refreshments such as sandwiches, relish trays, fruit bowls, fried chicken, potato salad, desserts, etc., for bingo parties, Las Vegas nights, picnics and other special events.
4. Making tray favors and centerpieces.
5. Sending holiday greeting cards, birthday cards, get-well wishes, remembrance cards and letters to veterans.
6. Purchasing and/or making items for the Christmas Gift Shop.
7. Shopping for supplies and materials for the above-mentioned projects.
8. Any other projects deemed necessary or requested for the rehabilitation and comfort of our Veterans as long as these projects fit within the parameters of the Home Service program.

GUIDELINES FOR HOME SERVICE VOLUNTEERS AND PROJECTS

In order for a project to qualify as a Home Service project and in order for a volunteer to receive Home Service credit for her hours, the following guidelines are recommended.

1. Recipients of Home Service projects must be Veterans (a) in a VA Medical Center; (b) in a Veterans Home; (c) in a local nursing home; (d) in a community hospital; (e) confined to their own homes; or (f) the homeless veteran.
2. Home Service projects should be completed in the volunteer's own home, without direct contact with the veteran.

PLEASE NOTE: If the volunteer delivers her project directly to the veteran(s), the time spent with the veteran(s) may NOT be counted as Home Service hours, but rather Field Service or VA&R hours.

Each Home Service volunteer should report the hours and monetary value of her project to her Unit or VA&R Chairman. Let's record these each month so that no hours or expenditures are lost or forgotten at the end of the year. Remember – to please send all your requests for tray favors, centerpieces or serving assignments to me: Helen Miller, PO Box 112, Palisade NE 69040 or you may call me at 308-285-3861 or email jfm@gpcom.net. When requesting assignments -- PLEASE remember to give the Holiday and the Veterans Facility wanted. I'm also requesting a contact name and phone number for each unit.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

A one-time Home Service pin is available after 50 hours of volunteerism has been accumulated at a cost of \$10.95 from Department. These hours can be accumulated over a period of years.

According to **Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Guide**; “The cost of the Home Service Pin and hour bars are to be defrayed by the Unit unless otherwise specified by Department”. Home Service Bars are available for 50, 100, 300, 500, and 1,000 hours of Home Service Hours. After reaching 1,000, bars are available in increasing increments of 1,000 (i.e., 2,000, 3,000, 4,000, etc.).

A Certificate of Appreciation may be presented by a Unit to a Non-Affiliated volunteer after 50 hours of Home Service have been accumulated.