



Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
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Welcome to the 104th year of the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) taking care of Veterans and their families. It is with pride we do what we need to do not only in our hospitals, but in nursing homes, assisted living centers, those who still live in their homes, and our homeless. Veterans and active military are our number one priority and South Dakota will continue to keep it just that.

This year you will find documents that you need on our South Dakota ALA website. There will be information on all our hospitals that we service and contact information of our chairman that make the programs in these facilities work every year. A packing slip that should be put in every box that you send to these facilities, or should be filled out and sent to the person in charge of the program you are having things sent to (such as Amazon) so that they can fill a donation slip for their records and for the VA facilities. There will be letters sent to District Presidents with needs list for each facility and their programs and you will also see on the website the needs lists that are given to the Representatives at the Veterans Administration Volunteer Services (VAVS) meetings in July, October, January and April. These only come from the VA's. We will also try to get a needs list from the State Veterans Home and the Human Service Center.

We do need to remember that our veterans are more than just in our hospitals, so to seek the veterans in your community out, you can take your contact information (name, address phone #) to your nursing homes, assisted living centers, and your local Veteran Service Officer (VSO) let them know that you want to help any veteran that might need some help and ask them to please contact you if they find out they have someone in need. You can also ask how many veterans they might have so that you can take cards (thinking of you, Birthday, Holiday's, get well etc.) to be given to them. This is also a very good project for your Juniors in your Units,

This year to maybe help get more of our Units involved in sending in Year-End-Reports we will have a questionnaire for Units to fill out so that we can maybe have better numbers to send into National and take credit for all the things we do. Units can still send in a narrative report to compete in the Best Unit VA&R report on the Divisional and National levels. Remember to have explanations (event and dates) by each picture you include in your report. I will take some examples of Reports from the past to Mid-Winter for you to look at and get ideas. Last but not least, make sure you report what you do to your Department Historian.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at any time, and "Thank You" for all you do for our South Dakota Veterans