Service Before Self

April 19, 2010

The week of April 18-24 is National Volunteer Week. As we are all aware, volunteerism and the spirit of service combine to form the fuel that drives the DAV.

The contributions DAV volunteers make are noteworthy. Last year, our volunteers donated 349,342 hours of service to veterans at VA hospitals, clinics and nursing homes through the VA Voluntary Service Program. Meanwhile, DAV Transportation Network volunteers contributed 1,857,670 hours and drove 22,308,554 miles providing transportation to some 595,718 sick or disabled veterans to and from their VA medical appointments.

Through DAV’s Voluntary Services Program alone, the VA estimates the value of contributed volunteer hours in the range of $7,074,176.

For veterans who’ve received rides through the Transportation Network or enjoyed a better care, comfort and attention in the hospitals where they are treated, the contributions of DAV volunteers are priceless.

The generous souls who selflessly give of themselves and go above and beyond the call of duty to honor our disabled veterans and their families deserve our utmost respect, and this month, we’re honored to recognize all they do on behalf of their nation and our organization.

It is critical that everyone knows that the DAV is there to provide even more opportunities for members of the public and veterans to serve. If you know someone who is interested in contributing to the DAV’s mission, please put them in contact with our Voluntary Services Department.
Prospective volunteers who don’t have regular availabilities and want to provide “freelance” assistance in their communities or who have specialized skills and training can help the DAV by keeping track of their hours through the Local Veterans Assistance Program. Contact your local chapter or department to find areas where assistance is needed or for assistance keeping track of your time.

With rising needs and challenging financial times afoot, the opportunities to help has never been greater. Thank you for your assistance this week and throughout the year. You are making a difference!

Volunteer

Scholarships