



# Community Impact Day

## QUICKSTART GUIDE



### Why it matters

DAV believes that “thank you for your service” is more than words; **it’s action**. When you give even an hour of your time to a veteran, you show them they are valued and appreciated. **It doesn’t have to be complicated or time-consuming** to get involved. One heartfelt, simple act of service added to others compounds to create an immeasurable effect.

- **Anyone**—not just veterans—can volunteer with DAV!
- **Everyone has a gift or a skill that can make a difference.** Never underestimate what you offer.
- **We hope this inspires** more people to get involved in community service year-round.

### Spread the word

Volunteering with others is more fun, so get your friends to join you to make an even bigger impact! Here are some helpful ways to do this.

- **Realize the power** of face-to-face conversations. A simple, direct ask is often the most effective way to get people in your community to join you.
- **Complement your conversations** with social media, texts and emails, but don’t rely on them as the only ways you get others to join in.
- **Seek input from others** to help uncover ideas and identify needs in your area.
- **Encourage others to visit** [communityimpactday.org](https://communityimpactday.org) to pledge an hour of their time.

### Act

April 6 is DAV Community Impact Day, so make a plan to get out there and serve! Teach, fix, host or donate—your imagination is your limit, but here are a few ideas to get you started volunteering for veterans.

- **Clean up** veterans’ yard or mow their lawns.
- **Bring a meal** and visit with a veteran who is homebound.
- **Organize** a Homeless Veterans Stand Down.
- **Help** with basic home repairs.
- **Clean** headstones at your local veterans cemetery.
- **Maintain or spruce up** a local veterans memorial or marker.
- **Host** a donation drive for clothing or other needed items for a veterans homeless shelter.

- **Collect** items and create care packages for hospitalized veterans.
- **Read** to veterans who are blind.
- **Host** a pancake breakfast for community veterans.
- **Donate blood** for your local Department of Veterans Affairs medical facility.
- **Teach** a class that could benefit those veterans who’ve served.
- **Make** quilts, blankets, hats or scarves for veterans.
- **Write** letters thanking veterans.
- **Paint** a mural honoring your community’s veterans.
- **Create** a newsletter highlighting stories of veterans in your community.

### Share

We want to see what you did! Make sure to take lots of photos and videos.

- **Visit** [dav.memfox.io/communityimpactday](https://dav.memfox.io/communityimpactday) and tell us about your volunteer experience.
- **Don’t forget** to add captions and tell us who’s in the photos.
- **We’ll share** some of our favorite stories and ideas in *DAV Magazine* and on social media.

### Go deeper

If you’d like to extend your service to veterans beyond one day, DAV has plenty of opportunities for you to be involved.

- **Driving veterans to their VA medical appointments** is our biggest enduring need. Learn more about volunteering with the DAV Transportation Network at [driveforveterans.org](https://driveforveterans.org).
- **Volunteers are always needed at VA medical facilities and local DAV chapters.** Visit [volunteerforveterans.org](https://volunteerforveterans.org) to let us know you’re available, and we’ll connect you to the right person in your area.

### Here to help

Don’t hesitate to reach out to DAV Voluntary Services via email at [volunteer@dav.org](mailto:volunteer@dav.org) if you have any questions about this event or any other volunteer opportunities.