## **Veterans & Family Support**

February is National Cancer Prevention Month and February 4<sup>th</sup> is World Cancer Day, a day to bring awareness and education about the awful disease. As you know the VFW and Auxiliary has had a long running program about Cancer Aid and Research. While it is no longer a required thing you can still donate to it. It was recently decided that any donations that your Auxiliary makes to Cancer Aid and Research should be reported in the Veterans and Family Support Program. Don't forget that auxiliary members are eligible for Cancer Grants, details can be found on MALTA.

February 14<sup>th</sup> is Valentines Day. Make sure you try and participate in the joint project with the Hospital program. When you create and send your Valentines for Vets, make sure to include a copy of the Resource Rack Card. I shared a version at Department Mid-Winter where I added info for caregivers. I also asked that you add more resources to it whether it is info about your Post/Auxiliary, a local organization, or other resource to help veterans. Let me know if you would like an electronic copy so you can easily print and add to it.

February 17<sup>th</sup> is Random Acts of Kindness Day. There are countless ideas of kind things you can do for this day or during the month. Try and think of something you can do for veterans and their families. You could make meals, make a donation, volunteer somewhere, make a care package, etc.

The clock is ticking on getting your program reports in, they are due at the end of March. Please try and get them turned in before the last day. Reference the January special Sunflower Express for some reporting do's and don'ts. Make sure you vote on any complete the necessary tasks if you are trying to qualify for a Department Award.

#1 is a citation for Auxiliaries that donate at least \$10 to each of the following programs:

- National Veterans Services
- Military Assistance Program
- Suicide Prevention and Awareness
- Sport Clips© Help a Hero Scholarship
- Unmet Needs

#2 is a citation to Auxiliaries that host an activity or event to promote and support the 3 Veterans and Family Support program goals of Military Support Programs, National Veterans Services, and Mental Health Awareness & Suicide Prevention.

Refer to the National Program book on MALTA for the National Awards criteria.

## Ft. Riley Soldier Recovery Unit is looking for donations.

Bring any items to your District meetings and we will have a way for them to be collected and delivered.

If you would like to deliver them yourself, that is also a possibility.



Shampoos and Soaps-NOT travel size



Feminine Hygiene Products



Personal Hygiene Products



**General Cleaning Supplies** 



**Paper Goods** 

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