

March, 2018 VAC Message

In six short months, we will meet in Chicago for the 50th Annual AHVRP Conference and Exposition. The AHVRP Volunteer Advisory Council, VAC (previously referred to as the Committee on Volunteers or COV) is currently in the process of reviewing nominations for the 35th year of the Hospital Awards for Volunteer Excellence (HAVE). The Volunteer Advisory Council (VAC) members are intently reading, evaluating and scoring the nominations for this award. We are working with the top five nominees from the following categories: Community Service; Fundraising; In Service and Community Outreach and or Collaboration. The final recommendations will be sent to the 2018 American Hospital Association (AHA) Board of Trustees after which winners of the 2018 HAVE Awards in the four categories will be notified by May 31, 2018.

The VAC is looking forward to the HAVE Awards Breakfast, September 30, 2018 at the AHVRP Conference. In celebration of 35 years, we are inviting past HAVE award recipients to attend the breakfast to support this year's winners. We encourage Auxiliaries and hospital leaders to send the past winner(s) from their state to come to Chicago to help make this celebration a success. We hope to see you there.

Once this part of our work is complete, the VAC will return to focusing on our Mission/Vision statement. Because we recently became a part of the AHVRP and were given a new title "Volunteer Advisory Council", we are charged with establishing a Mission/Vision for the Council. The Council is using these two questions when putting their thoughts together. They are: What will our mission become? and How will we contribute to the AHVRP/AHA Mission.

Please do not forget, National Healthcare Volunteer Week is April 15-21, 2018. In 1974, President Richard Nixon established National Volunteer Week with an executive order, as a way to recognize and celebrate the efforts of Volunteers. Please celebrate your Volunteers this week and share with us the ways you honored your volunteers. We encourage you to take a selfie with your volunteers and share it with AHVRP. For more information on volunteer week, click here. http://www.ahvrp.org/programs/vol_week_all.shtml

We hope you are making your plans to be a part of the 50th Annual AHVRP Conference and Exposition, September 28-October 2, 2018 at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Rosemont, IL. Encourage your state organization to send some of its leaders to the State Auxiliary Leaders (SAL) meeting, Sept. 29 as well as stay and attend the AHVRP Conference. Remember, this SAL meeting was moved from Washington to Chicago to help defray the cost of having your state leaders attend. This Conference will give your leaders the opportunity to get first-hand information from the AHVRP/AHA/VAC. An education track is being developed specifically for volunteers and auxiliaries. Please join us there!



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