

February, 2018 VAC Message

Volunteering brings rewards, satisfaction and challenges. I am excited about all these as I begin the position as Chair of the Volunteer Advisory Council (VAC). It is rewarding to provide leadership to help this group have a vital, active role in AHVRP. I am also excited that as a council, we have the opportunity to become a contributor to the mission and vision of AHVRP/AHA, serve as the voice of the volunteer and share the voice of the patient.

Most of my career and volunteerism have provided many leadership opportunities.

First, as an educator - teacher, counselor and administrator, I was privileged to lead our school and faculty to becoming a part of the International Baccalaureate Program. I also developed an alternative school to help those students who were in danger of never graduating receive the necessary credit to fulfill their graduation requirements

I have volunteered in many organizations and held many positions, but it is a privilege to volunteer at Broward Health Medical Center (BHMC), Fort Lauderdale, Florida, a hospital that is supportive of volunteers and recognizes the many ways the volunteer makes contributions that ultimately benefits the patient. The BHMC Auxiliary is where I have volunteered for eleven years serving as parliamentarian, president and as advisor to the current president. While serving as president, we created the Patient Care Team, Mended Heart Program, the Pet Therapy and ICU Dinners.

It was also humbling to be elected to serve on the Association of Florida Healthcare Auxiliaries/Volunteers, Inc. (AFHAV) Board as south district director. I was later the second vice president in charge of the annual program for the AFHAV and served two terms as president. Under my leadership, we established good relationships with the auxiliaries, hospital personnel and administrators. At the state level, we have merged the AFHAV and the Florida Association of Director of Volunteer Services (FADVS) which had been separated for many years.

These experiences, I feel, provide me with the impetus and experience to fulfill the Chair position of VAC with the AHVRP/AHA.

It will be exciting, rewarding and satisfying to work with other leaders on this committee and throughout the country as we move to create a more viable, collaborative organization.

I believe it will be very special time for the VAC this year to have the 35th Anniversary of the HAVE Awards presented at the 50th Annual AHVRP Conference & Exposition on September 30, 2018. This means that we will have an important voice in this conference and will have a voice in the future as we plan to work with the AHVRP.

Sincerely,



Rozen Patterson

2018 Chair, Volunteer Advisory Council (VAC)

Auxiliary /Volunteer

Broward Health Medical

Center/Salah Foundation

Children's Hospital

Ft. Lauderdale, FL