

# “VA Voluntary Service and its Impact”

VA Voluntary Service  
TCF Intern Class 2013  
Veterans serving Veterans



# Veterans Affairs Mission Statement

**To fulfill President Lincoln's promise “To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan” by serving and honoring the men and women who are America’s Veterans.**

# VA Voluntary Service (VAVS) Mission Statement

*To provide a structured Volunteer Program under the management of VA compensated employees in cooperation with community resources to serve America's Veterans and their families with dignity and compassion.*

## VAVS Alignment to VA's Blueprint for Excellence

- Promote a positive culture of service
- Increase operational effectiveness
- Assists in delivery of high quality, Veteran centered care

# Major Components of VAVS

- Volunteer Management
- Community Partnerships and Outreach
- Events Planning/ Management
- Donation Management



# Major VAVS Goals

- Support the VA mission/ values
- Supplement budgetary appropriations
- Ensure a safe, clean environment
- Manage volunteers and collaborate with VA employees
- Maintain Volunteer/ Veteran interactions, fostering the healing process

# VAVS Volunteer Management

- Serves as HR manager for over 130,000 volunteers nationwide
- Ensures volunteers have meaningful assignments
- Provides non-clinical services to Veterans, increasing access to care

<http://www.volunteer.va.gov/features/whatwillyoudo.asp>

# Community Partnerships and Outreach

- VAVS fosters collaborative relationships with corporate/ community sponsors to “serve those who have served”
- Strong partnerships create long-term relationships that will help Veterans well into the future
- National Events held at local VAMCs increase VA visibility



# Community Partnerships

- National Advisory Committee (NAC)
- VAVS Committee
- Local Veteran Service Organizations (VSO)
- Civic Groups
- Corporate Sponsors





# National Programs

- National Disabled Veterans Winter/Summer Sports Clinics
- National Veterans Creative Arts Festival
- National Veterans Wheelchair Games
- National Veterans Golden Age Games
- National Salute to Veteran Patients
- Warrior Games
- National Veterans Tee Tournament
- Valor Games
- National Volunteer Week



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oGu7mVLWYwQ&feature=youtu.be>

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

# Special Events

- Winterhaven Homeless Stand Down
- Welcome Home
- Holiday Gifts and Activities
- Summer Youth Volunteer Program
- Veterans Day Celebrations
- Recreation Activities
- Vettes to Vets



# Donation Management

- Donations are utilized to support a variety of patient activities and services throughout the Department of Veterans Affairs
- Donations impact Veteran experience and access
- 100% of donations benefit Veterans and are tax deductible

# Types of Donations

- Monetary



- Items and Activities





# Monetary

Donors can specify how they would like their contribution to be utilized in support of Veterans

- Recreation Activities and Supplies
- Patient Holiday Activities and Gifts
- Homeless Veterans
- Women's Health Programs
- E-Donate <http://www.volunteer.va.gov/apps/VolunteerNow>



# Donation Categories

## Items

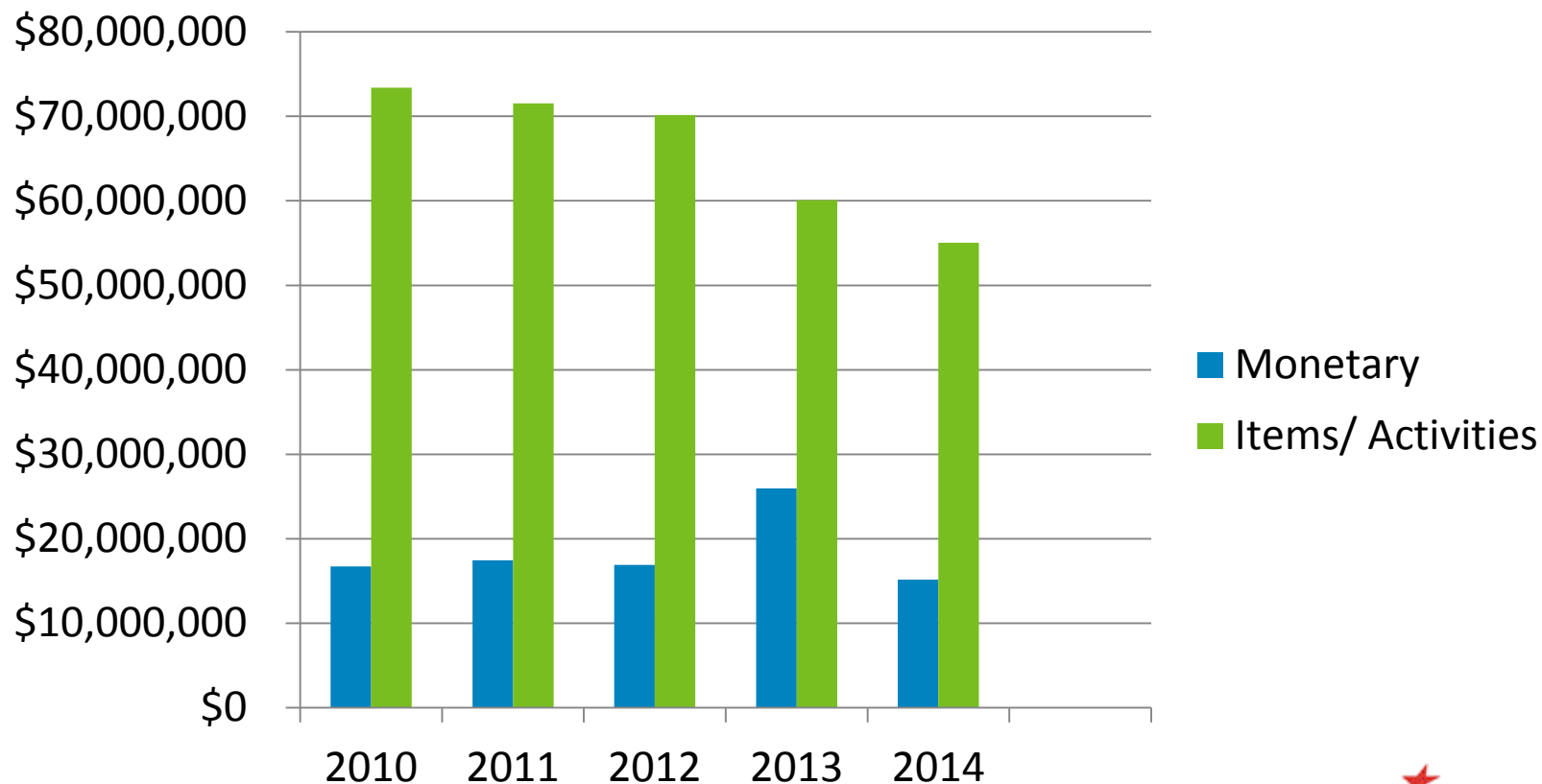
Department of Veterans Affairs accepts in-kind donations of certain toiletries, books, magazines, lap robes, clothing and other miscellaneous items.

## Activities

Ice cream socials, movie night, birthday parties, bingo, and other occasional group events



# Donations 2010- 2014



# VAVS Cost Avoidance 2014

\$255,294,602

+

\$70,702,532

=

\$325,997,134

## Volunteer Contribution

(based on Independent Sector's  
value of \$22.55/hour)

## Donations

(monetary and non-monetary,  
taken from VSS)

## TOTAL

## Costs to VA

\$63, 460, 063



Includes salaries, benefits,  
supplies, travel, and volunteer  
meals for field and VACO  
based on 2014 figures.



# I CARE

**Integrity- Commitment- Advocacy- Respect- Excellence**

I care about those who have served.

I care about my fellow VA employees.

I care about choosing “the hard right instead of the easier wrong”

I care about performing my duties to the very best of my abilities”

-Secretary of Veterans Affairs  
Robert “Bob” McDonald



# VAVS Salutes Our Veterans

