

# Ongoing Volunteer Needs

**Volunteer Van Drivers.** Use a government vehicle to transport Veterans to and from their VA facility destination. Volunteer drivers must have an excellent driving record, be in good physical health, and willing to cheerfully deal with this crazy traffic that surrounds us in the greater Puget Sound region.

This is primarily a weekday assignment.

Most of the driving assignments are through our Volunteer Transportation Network (VTN), more commonly referred to as the DAV van program. Vans are based out of our primary divisions (Seattle and American Lake VA Medical Center), and also in outlying areas, such as Kitsap County, the Olympic Peninsula, and along the I-5 corridor. This is a weekday assignment, and normally involves fairly early mornings and long days.

Volunteer drivers are also welcome to serve in the new Veterans Transportation Service (VTS). This program is intended primarily for Veterans who need special mode transportation (e.g. wheelchair lifts, etc.). This is also a weekday assignment.

Occasionally, volunteers are needed to assist staff in transporting Veteran inpatients to and from recreational outings in the community.

**Puget Sound NaVAgators.** NaVAgator volunteers provide individualized and above and beyond customer service to Veterans and their families, visitors and other customers throughout the medical center. Duties include meeting, greeting, providing directions and personally accompanying people whenever possible to their destinations. As volunteers become more familiar with our organization, they quickly help Veterans navigate all aspects of VA Puget Sound, serving as mobile customer service ambassadors.

The majority of naVAgator volunteers are needed on weekdays, as early as 6am and as late as 5pm. While we prefer volunteers who can commit to a weekly schedule, the naVAgator assignment lends itself well to people who need a more flexible volunteer schedule. Basically, the more naVAgators on duty, the better 😊.

**Other Volunteer Assignment Opportunities** are more variable in terms of vacancy/need. At our monthly orientation sessions, we review all current volunteer assignment needs and opportunities, including days and times volunteers are needed for those assignments..