



**DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO  
HOSPITAL PROGRAM**

**September 1, 2024**

**Promotional #3**

**TO: Paulette McCord, National Ambassador  
Renee King, Department President, New Mexico**  
**FROM: Jeanette D Garcia, Department Chairman, New Mexico**

Hello New Mexico:

As we start the year working with our Veterans in the Hospital, you may not be able to visit the wards and speak to our Veterans and their families. What can we do to bring sunshine and smiles to their lives?

We can make blankets and lap robes as well as packages with water, crackers, sugar free candy and other goodies. For those who cannot have food or only liquid, you can provide pens and pencils, journals, books, etc. A handmade Thank You card would be wonderful. Ask about men's and women's clothes, personal health care items, or you can give a monetary donation.

There are three different hospitals in the state of New Mexico that you can provide for our Veterans. The Raymond G Murphy VA Medical Center in Albuquerque, the New Mexico State Veterans Home in T or C and the Ft. Bayard Veterans Wing in Silver/Bayard. There is an attachment below of the VA in Albuquerque. The T or C Veterans Home has some of the basic needs such as, blankets, lap robes, and sugar free snacks. Please call ahead of time just to make sure they will accept any donations that you will be providing.

Also attached is a calendar for you to review and to give some ideas on how you can provide for Veterans monthly. During the month of September, you have Fruit & Veggies Month, National Chicken Month, National Honey Month and National Waffle Week, just to name a few. Work with your Auxiliary to come up with ideas to work with our Veterans and to bring those smiles to their faces. You may not be able to go into the wards and visit, but you work with the voluntary services program to provide other items they are requesting. Report on how you used the calendar and what you did to bring those smiles.

On another note, it is National Suicide Prevention Month in September. Dial 988 and Press 1. Be aware of the signs and Veterans and families around you.

**Don't forget the goals of the Hospital Program this year:**

Volunteer Recruitment, Recognition & Support, Valentines' for Veterans, Women Veterans Health Care and Honors Escort. Make sure to give a School of Instruction at you meetings and keep your members informed of the needs of our Veterans in VA Hospitals and Non-VA Facilities.

**Report....Report....Report!!**

Take Care!

