

May 2025



Tomah VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE)

500 East Veterans Street (135), Tomah, WI 54660

608-372-1727

VHATOMVoluntaryService@va.gov

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 0600-1430, Closed Holidays

May VAVS Meetings

Wednesday, May 7, 2025—VAVS Executive Meeting 10:00am, Building 407, room 1724

Wednesday, May 14, 2025—VAVS Quarterly Meeting 10:00am, Building 407, room 1724

Or via Microsoft TEAMS at 1-872-70-0185 Phone Conference ID# 883 900 726#

Reminders:

1. **PIV Cards**—Please check your ID cards to get them renewed **BEFORE** they expire.
2. Please continue to turn in your **volunteer hours** on a regular basis (i.e. monthly) via email, paper log sheet or enter them into portal.
3. Tomah Volunteers— if your **parking pass** doesn't look like this, stop by our office or police for a new form to complete to receive new parking pass!
4. Volunteers are able to access the Building 402 **fitness gym** 24/7; however, do need to review and sign 3 liability forms that are available in our office (or we can electronically email them to you to complete). Once we receive completed forms, we'll request access to your volunteer ID card which you'll use to get into the fitness gym.
5. Volunteers who are **unaffiliated with an organization**—IF you want, whether you are a member of an organization or not, you can credit those hours to an organization of your choice. To update your affiliation, please contact our office.



Thank you for sharing your time and energy,
Deb, Heath, Cindy, Jen



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Tomah VA Medical Center

Volunteer Appreciation Week Recap

Our Volunteer Recruitment Fair on April 21, 2025 was a great success, thanks to our current volunteers who enthusiastically shared their personal stories and motivations. Their passion and commitment make them our finest ambassadors in recruiting new volunteers. We had 6 new adult volunteers schedule their background check to initiate the onboarding process and 3 youth who are joining us this summer!

Thank you to those who attended the banquet on April 23, 2025. Kudos to everyone who dusted off their boots and donned a hat for the western-themed event. In a fun twist, Wanted Posters were created for all volunteers (and some staff), which was a huge hit. Hour awards were presented, followed by a delightful buffet lunch and beverages available at the 'watering hole.' We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our volunteers for generously sharing their time and energy to support our mission.



For more photos, please visit our Tomah VA Facebook event

Recruitment Fair <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1A9f1pcmsp/>

Volunteer Recognition Banquet: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/16EsSPKV2n/>

Friend of the Volunteers' Award: <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/15nHiwHs4c/>

Volunteers Needed for Events

*please see page 4 for additional activities that could use assistance

**Please use Sign up Genius or let CDCE staff know if you're able to assist

May 8—LIVE Music with Shawn and Ernie, 1:30pm, 455/Veterans Hall

May 13—Dance Art Centers Performance, 6:00pm, 455/Veterans Hall

May 21—Annual Fishing Day Tournament, 9:00, VA pond

May 23—Memorial Day Program, 10:00am, outside building 400



Link to SignUpGenius [https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?](https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=c.SignUpSearch&eid=08C0CBD8F8C4FB6609&cs=09CBBADF8FBF8B6D7B0764035BB49BC8FDCF&sortby=title)

[go=c.SignUpSearch&eid=08C0CBD8F8C4FB6609&cs=09CBBADF8FBF8B6D7B0764035BB49BC8FDCF&sortby=title](https://www.signupgenius.com/index.cfm?go=c.SignUpSearch&eid=08C0CBD8F8C4FB6609&cs=09CBBADF8FBF8B6D7B0764035BB49BC8FDCF&sortby=title)

Current Volunteer Needs

- **BIGGEST NEEDS to help our Community Living Center (CLC) - inpatient Veterans**
 - **NEW!** Evening Recreation activities (1:1 or group) on 402b(Rehab)
 - **NEW!** 403 to assist Veterans to Canteen/library—Monday and Wednesdays 9am-11am
 - **455 Activities**—Volunteers to assist inpatients to scheduled 455 activities (see page 4) ***if we don't have a enough volunteers, we may have to move activity to unit instead of hospital wide.**
 - **Chapel Volunteers**—escort inpatient Veterans to Chapel as scheduled:
 - Sundays at 1:00pm - Protestant
 - Wednesdays at 2:45pm - Catholic Mass
- **NEW!** Chaplain Office—Bereavement Mailings—last week of the month for 2-3 hours
- **NEW!** Caregiver Support—administrative support (1-2x/monthly up to 4 hours)
- **NEW!** Photography—Assist Public Affairs with photography at special events
- **Compassionate Contact Corps (CCC)**— Requesting more male Veteran volunteers virtual volunteers to call Veterans who struggle with loneliness and social isolation (average 15 minute commitment /week)
- **Bowling Alley Volunteers:** open bowling alley, assist bowlers with getting shoes, ball, electronic scoring.
- **Recreation Volunteers (fishing, games, visiting, music, art)**— to assist with programming and 1:1 visits with inpatient Veterans
- **Coffee Cart Volunteers** - Outpatient Clinic locations (Wausau, Wisconsin Rapids, La Crosse)

Current Needs List

- **NEW!** Fine line Crayola Markers
- **NEW!** Instant Decaf Coffee
- Decaf Coffee—large tubs for units
- Men's Tennis Shoes (Size 9-12 regular or wide)
- Women's Shoes — size 7 & 7.5
- Men's sweatshirt—Large



May 2025

Tomah VA Free Choice Activities—All Veterans Welcome

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>*All Adaptive Sports Clinics are located in Building 15 unless noted differently (Golf and Cycling).</p> <p><u>Need medical clearance & appointment for adaptive sports events</u></p>		<p>VA Library Hours Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm Building 401, room 1100</p> 	<p>Bowling Alley is located in Building 406, room 1615</p> 	<p>1 1:00-2:30pm Project Healing Waters; La Crosse Vet Center</p>	<p>2 1:00-2:30pm Archery Clinic, Bldg. 15 8:00am-10:00am Creative Arts Festival Registration, Bldg. 455 5:30pm-7:30pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>3 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 11:00am-2:00pm Open Bowling 1:30 Bingo (ALA State) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p>
<p>4 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>	<p>5 11:30am Mental Health Walk, Outside Bldg. 400 5:30pm-7:30pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>6 1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling *1:00-2:30pm Adaptive Golf Clinic; Tomah VA golf Course</p>	<p>7 *1:00-3:00pm Pickleball Clinic; Bldg. 15 1:30 Bingo (VFWA State) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall 2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>8 1:30pm Music with Ernie & Shawn; Bldg 455, Veterans Hall</p>	<p>9 5:30pm-7:30pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>10 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 11:00am-2:00pm Open Bowling</p>
<p>11 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>	<p>12 *9:30-11:30am Adaptive Cycling Clinic; center courtyard 5:30pm-7:30pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>13 *12:30-2:30 Air Rifle Clinic Bldg. 15 6pm Dance Art Centers Performance, Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p>	<p>14 *1:00-2:30pm Nat'l Events Clinic, Bldg. 15 1:30 Bingo (ALA Elroy) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall 2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>15 1:30 pm Day at the Races (AMVETS); Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p>	<p>16 1:00-2:30pm Archery Clinic, Bldg. 15 5:30pm-7:30pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>17 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 11:00am-2:00pm Open Bowling</p>
<p>18 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>	<p>19 8:00am-10:00am Creative Arts Festival Registration, Bldg. 455 5:30pm-7:30pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>20 1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling 1:00-2:30pm Project Healing Waters; 455; Veterans Hall *1:00-2:30pm Adaptive Golf Clinic; Tomah VA golf Course</p>	<p>21 9:00am Fishing Tournament (inpatient Veterans only), VA pond *1:00-3:00pm Pickleball Clinic; Bldg. 15 2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p>	<p>22 12:00pm VA2K—2K walk and roll, outside building 400</p>	<p>23 10:00am Memorial Day Program—Outside Building 400 5:30pm-7:30pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>24 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 11:00am-2:00pm Open Bowling</p>
<p>25 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p>	<p>26 Memorial Day 5:30pm-7:30pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>27 1:30pm Bingo (DAV—Ch. 27) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall 2:00pm-4:00pm Creative Arts Festival Registration, Bldg. 455</p>	<p>28 1:30pm BINGO (DAV—Ch 12—La Crosse), Bldg 455, Veterans Hall</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 8:00am-10:00am Creative Arts Festival Registration, Bldg. 455 5:30pm-7:30pm Open Bowling</p>	<p>31 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open 11:00am-2:00pm Open Bowling</p>