

October 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

Greetings Volunteers!

1. October 1, 2025 is the start of a new fiscal year! Please continue to turn in your volunteer hours on a regular basis (i.e. monthly) via email to VHATOMVoluntaryService@va.gov, paper log sheet or enter them into portal (directions emailed 9/9/25) **Hours for FY25 (October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025 are due to our office no later than October 6, 2025.** The system is now terminating volunteers who've not logged time in one year.
2. **2026 Planning letters were emailed out August 21, 2025.** Please share those with your Veteran, community, church and school organizations about opportunities to sponsor Veteran programming in Building 455, Community Living Center (CLC) or even hosting a special event. **Responses are due November 7, 2025.**
3. **Volunteers needed for Upcoming Special Events!**

scan QR Code for SignUpGenius link

10/5/25 Fall Memorial Service

10/7/25 Carnation Delivery Day

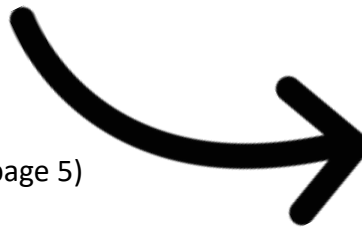
10/8-10/9 Drive Through Flu Shot Clinic (page 5)

10/22/25 Oktoberfest Event

10/30/25 Creative Arts Coffeehouse

10/31/25 Pumpkin Drop

11/10/25 Veterans Day Program



Please see calendar on page 3 for more information to include times and location.

Help us track your valuable contributions that support our mission.

Volunteer Hours

Submit your hours regularly to ensure we recognize your hard work and dedication!

Submit Your Hours for FY25 (October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025) by October 6, 2025



VA Volunteer Screening Changes *** start 60 days prior to current badge expiring!

- USAccess/PIV volunteer Badge Issuance Standardization
 - 6-month badge – WOC volunteers with <6 month facility assignments (Special Agreement Check (SAC) vetting only – fingerprints: criminal history check)
 - No Badge – Virtual-only volunteers (SAC vetting only-fingerprints: criminal history check)
 - 5-year badge- WOC volunteers with >6 month assignments (Tier 1 background comprehensive investigation: criminal history, employment, education, references and drug review). Renewable every 5 years
- Volunteers who are unable or unwilling to complete VA vetting may be referred to local community partners with more flexible onboarding. There are many ways to support Veterans in the community.
- Reminder that REAL-ID (look for the star) is required for background investigations.

Privacy and Veteran Photos

Summary of Responsibilities of VHA employees and volunteers as outlined in VHA Directive 1078, which pertains to the privacy of persons regarding photographs, digital images, and video or audio recordings. It is imperative to adhere to these guidelines to protect the privacy and confidentiality of our Veterans and staff:

Obtaining Consent:

1. Written Consent:

- Employees and volunteers must obtain written consent from individuals before capturing or using photographs, digital images, or video or audio recordings. This consent must outline the specific purpose and scope of the use. VA Form 10-3203. ****this gives VA consent, not outside parties**

2. Usage Restrictions:

- Photographs, digital images, and recordings should only be used for the purposes explicitly stated in the consent form.

3. Privacy and Security:

- Using personal devices, such as your personal phone, to capture photographs or recordings of Veterans/PII should not occur without appropriate approval of your supervisor, privacy officer, and facility ISSO to ensure compliance with security and privacy policies.

5. Compliance with Privacy Laws:

- All activities must comply with applicable privacy laws and regulations, including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and VHA policies.
- Employees and volunteers must be familiar with and adhere to these laws and policies to ensure the protection of individuals' privacy rights.

6. Minimization:

- Capture and use only the minimal necessary amount of information needed to fulfill the intended purpose.
- Avoid unnecessary recording of personal identifiers unless absolutely required for the intended use.

7. Reporting Breaches:

- Any unauthorized use, disclosure, or breach of photographs, digital images, or recordings must be reported immediately according to VHA procedures.
- Employees and volunteers should be aware of the proper reporting channels and follow the established protocols for incident reporting (i.e. supervisor, privacy office, ISSO)

October 2025

Tomah VA Free Choice Activities—All Veterans Welcome

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| <p>VA Library Hours Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:00pm Building 401, room 1100</p>  | <p>*Need medical clearance & appointment for adaptive</p>  | <p>Bowling Alley is located in Building 406, room 1615</p>  | <p>1 2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p> <p>3:00pm Board & Card Games with THS Cross Country Team, Bldg 455, Veterans Hall</p> | <p>2 1:00-2:30pm Project Healing Waters; La Crosse Vet Center</p> <p>1:00-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> | <p>3 *1:00-2:30pm Archery Clinic, Bldg. 15</p> | <p>4 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>1:30 Bingo (ALA State) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> |
| <p>5 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p> | <p>6</p> | <p>7 8:00am-1:00pm Versiti Blood Drive; Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> <p>1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> | <p>8 1:30 Bingo (ALA Elroy) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> <p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p> | <p>9 1:00-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> | <p>10</p> | <p>11 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p> |
| <p>12 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p> | <p>13 Columbus Day</p> | <p>14 *12:30-2:30 Air Rifle Clinic Bldg. 15</p> <p>1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> | <p>15 1:30 Bingo (VFWA State) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> <p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p> | <p>16 1:00-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> | <p>17 *1:00-2:30pm Archery Clinic, Bldg. 15</p> | <p>18 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p> |
| <p>19 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>12:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p> | <p>20</p> | <p>21 1:00-2:30pm Project Healing Waters; 455; Veterans Hall</p> <p>1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> | <p>22 1:30pm Oktoberfest (VFWA), Bldg 455, Veterans Hall</p> <p>2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p> | <p>23 1:00-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> | <p>24</p> | <p>25 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:30pm-4:00pm Open Bowling</p> |
| <p>26 9:00am-12:00pm VA Library Open</p> <p>1:00 Protestant Service, VA Chapel</p> | <p>27</p> | <p>28 1:00pm-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>6:00pm Bingo (DAV—Ch. 27) Bldg. 455; Veterans Hall</p> | <p>29 2:45pm Catholic Mass, VA Chapel</p> | <p>30 1:00-3:00pm Open Bowling</p> <p>4:30-6:00pm Trunk or Treat (402 parking lot)</p> <p>5:30pm-7:00pm Project Healing Waters; American Legion Post 336, Onalaska, WI</p> <p>6pm Creative Arts Coffee house (open mic night) 455 Veterans Hall</p> | <p>31 1:30pm Pumpkin Drop , Outside building 406</p>  | |

Current Volunteer Needs

- **Loving Spoonfuls**—specifically in building 409 during breakfast (7:00am) and dinner (4:30pm).
- **Evening Recreation activities (1:1 or group) on 402b(Rehab)**
- **403 to assist Veterans to Canteen/library**—Monday and Wednesdays 9am-11am
- **Chapel Volunteers**—escort inpatient Veterans to Chapel as scheduled:
 - Sundays at 1:00pm - Protestant
 - Wednesdays at 2:45pm - Catholic Mass
- **Wausau Vet Center Outstation**—assist with phones, greeting visitors 0800-1630 M, W, Th, F; 11am--1930pm Tuesdays
- **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)
- **Coffee Cart Volunteers** - Outpatient Clinic locations
 - Wausau/Rothchild (Wednesday & Friday)
 - Wisconsin Rapids (Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
 - La Crosse (Friday)



RECREATION & MUSIC



VOLUNTEER TRANSPORTATION NETWORK



CBOC & COFFEE CARTS



PET THERAPY

BE A VOLUNTEER : SUPPORT OUR MISSION

**TOMAH VA CENTER FOR DEVELOPMENT & CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
608-372-1727**

Current Needs List

- **NEW!** Used books— paperback (used in our free little libraries around Tomah campus)
- Walmart Gift Cards—\$25—any use (inpatient or outpatient Veterans)
- Sour hard candy
- Deodorant—men's and women's
- 3 in 1 Men's Shampoo/conditioner/bodywash
- Coffee Filters—large Bunn
- Instant Coffee—regular and decaf
- iTunes Gift cards—used by Music and Memory program
- Shoes—9-11 (Men's athletic shoes)
- White brief (medium & large)
- Colored Boxer brief (medium & large)
- Backpacks





Protect Yourself, Protect Your Family

Have you had your flu shot?

Tomah VA Medical Center and VA Clinic Flu Shot options beginning September 22, 2025 through November 28, 2025

Walk-In Clinics:

Clark County VA Clinic 8 Johnson Street, Owen, WI

Thursdays: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

La Crosse VA Clinic 4000 Highway 16, Valley View Mall Annex, La Crosse, WI

Wednesdays: 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Tomah VA Medical Center 500 E. Veterans Street, Tomah, WI

Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays: 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Building 400, Room 1052

Wausau VA Clinic 1105 E. Grand Avenue, Rothschild, WI

Thursdays: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Wisconsin Rapids VA Clinic 700 Hale Street, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

Thursdays: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Drive-Through Clinic:

Tomah VA Medical Center and Monroe County Health Department

500 E. Veterans Street, Tomah, WI - Please follow signs

Wednesday, October 8 and Thursday, October 9

Open to Veterans 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Open to all community members 2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Community Partners (Veterans please have your VA ID with you)

Please confirm locations by scanning the QR code:

Or visit: www.va.gov/communitycare/flushot.asp



For more information call our Flu Shot Hotline:

1-800-872-8662, ext. 61787

Recycle Eyeglasses: Usable Glasses Give New Life

Did you know?

The World Health Organization estimates that 120 million people can't see well because they need glasses or contacts. These vision problems are easy to fix with eye exams and glasses, but many people don't have access to these services.

We can help!

Do you have a pair of old glasses that you don't use anymore? You can donate them! Tomah VA and the Tomah Lions Club are collecting used glasses.



Donate during October 2025 at:

Tomah VA Optometry Clinic
Tomah VA Library
La Crosse VA Clinic
Wausau VA Clinic
Wisconsin Rapids VA Clinic

How are they reused and repaired?

Collected: The Lions Club collects used glasses from various places.

Sorted and Cleaned: The glasses are sent to a recycling center where trained volunteers clean and check them.

Packaged: The glasses are packed and stored until they are needed for vision missions.

Dispensed: At the mission site, volunteers and eye care professionals give the glasses to people who need them, free of charge.

Donated glasses help many people see better and live better lives.

Thank you for your support!

For more information:

Visit:

www.lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/resource-center/recycle-eyeglasses

or Scan the QR code:



VA



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