

IDAHO STATE VETERANS HOME, BOISE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



Caring for America's Heroes

There are many opportunities to volunteer at the Idaho State Veterans Home at 320 Collins Road (just east of the V.A. Medical Center) in Boise.

IF YOU ARE A REGULAR, ALREADY APPROVED VOLUNTEER at our facility and have seen something that interests you on the posted calendar for this [month](#), please email [Cindy](#) or [Jackie](#) and tell them which event you can help with. One of them will confirm by email. If you have not received an email confirmation within a few days, please telephone the office.

IF YOU ARE NEW AND CONSIDERING VOLUNTEERING AT OUR FACILITY, we welcome your interest! Take a look at this month's [calendar](#), as it will give you an overview of events. Some opportunities include the following, though this is not an exhaustive list, and you should meet with us in person to discuss other possibilities as well.

- **One-on-One Time.** This is one of our most valuable opportunities and involves spending one-on-one time with an individual resident. You provide personalized attention to that person and discuss his or her day, current events, sports, or other areas of interest. You may play card games, read a book from our library, or engage in other recreational activities within the facility that the person enjoys. Weather permitting, and with the approval of staff, you may be able to bring a resident outside to sit in the fresh air or take a short walk. This opportunity requires nothing more than active listening skills and a smile.
- **Service.** There are many areas of service that greatly benefit from volunteer assistance:



- **Dining Room.** Help set up the tables before meals, help serving trays, and help clear the tables afterward.
- **Library.** Walking throughout the facility with a library cart enables residents who are otherwise unable to get to the library to get books.



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- **Labeling Clothing.** Labeling clothing with residents' name tags.
- **Clipping Coupons.** Clipping coupons out of the newspaper.
- **Reading Aloud.** Reading the newspaper or library book to visually impaired residents.

- **Arts and Crafts.** There are many different arts and crafts activities, whether painting, drawing, leather work, and so forth. This requires no particular skill set other than working under the direct supervision of the trained crafts specialist on staff.



- **Bingo.** Bingo is very popular among our residents. We have Saturday afternoon games and usually another one or two during the week and always need help.

- **Music Programs.** We need help setting up the dining room for programs, getting residents to and from the dining room, being a buddy during the program, and cleaning up after.



- **Events.** We try to arrange many varied activities for residents to enjoy. These may be something such as the Forever Yours Anniversary celebration that helps create a private celebration for a resident and his or her spouse on their anniversary, celebrations within the facility, off-site events such as attending a Boise Hawks game or Stampede game, or eating out at a restaurant.



- **Special Events and Seasonal Activities.** We need help with decorating, setup, escorting residents, and other miscellaneous duties.

If you are interested in more information about volunteering, please contact:
Volunteer Coordinator Phil Hawkins, 208 780-1700, or click here to send email: Phil.Hawkins@veterans.idaho.gov
Activities Coordinator Cindy Tatro, 208 780-1710, or click here to send email: Cynthia.Tatro@veterans.idaho.gov



REMEMBER: Volunteering gives your life meaning, helps our residents greatly, looks good on your resume, and offers a wonderful opportunity to give something back to those who have proudly served our country. You can volunteer even if your time is limited. Your time and attention is the great gift you can give.