



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration  
VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System

# News Release

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 22, 2024

### VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System recognizes volunteers

**CLEVELAND** – VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System is celebrating the efforts of its volunteers during National Volunteers Week. Like all medical facilities, Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals, nursing homes and clinics rely upon numerous volunteers to assist in an array of duties.

National Volunteer Week highlights the invaluable contributions made by volunteer staff members as they work throughout the year assisting with patient care and well-being, coordinating recreational programs, food service, escort duties, or simply providing companionship to Veteran patients.

“Each year, we shine a light on the people and causes that inspire us to serve, recognizing and thanking volunteers who lend their time, talent, and voice to make a difference in their communities,” said June Knowlton, Community Development and Civic Engagement Officer. “It is a time to honor and thank volunteers for their commitment and compassion toward patients, staff, and the community.”

This year VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System’s office of Community Development & Civic Engagement is honoring our volunteers with a homemade breakfast for the week. They will also be receiving a backpack, umbrella, and a pair of sunglasses as a small token of our sincere appreciation for all that volunteers do every day for our Veterans.

Since October 1, VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System volunteers have donated more than 19,800 hours in service to the Veteran patient population, translating to a savings of \$613,800.

“Our volunteers do what they do because of their commitment to service and compassion for others,” said Knowlton. “Their contribution is priceless. Perhaps the most important thing we can ever do is simply say “thank you.”

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**Contact Damien Horvath, VA Public Affairs Officer, at 216-339-5240, or [Damien.Horvath@va.gov](mailto:Damien.Horvath@va.gov) with questions or to arrange follow up interviews with local VA leadership.**

**ABOUT VA NORTHEAST OHIO HEALTHCARE SYSTEM:** Focusing on treating the whole Veteran through health promotion and disease prevention, VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare

# VA



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System provides comprehensive, seamless health care and social services for more than 134,000 Veterans across Northeast Ohio. With 17 locations of care, including 12 outpatient clinics, two community resource and referral centers, a psychosocial rehabilitation and recovery center, a chronic dialysis center, and an outpatient surgery center, VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System's quality services are easily accessible to Veterans in 21 counties. VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System also contributes to the future of medicine through education, training, and research programs.

For more information about programs and services offered by VA Northeast Ohio Healthcare System, visit [www.cleveland.va.gov](http://www.cleveland.va.gov) or follow us on Facebook @ClevelandVAMC.