HAVE Awards Go To Top-Notch Volunteer Programs

Volunteer service areas centered on mothers in labor, reducing unnecessary hospital visits, supporting military veterans and telling patients' stories were honored at the American Hospital Association Annual Membership Meeting in May.

The AHA's Hospital Awards for Volunteer Excellence (HAVE) were presented for the 33rd year, citing the extraordinary efforts of volunteers and volunteer programs and the positive impact their contributions have on the patients, hospitals and communities they serve.

AHA Committee on Volunteers Chair Lynn Smith from Arkansas presides over the Hospital Awards for Volunteer Excellence ceremony in May.

From left, COV Chair Lynn Smith; June Berlinger, Longmont United Hospital, Longmont, CO; Molly James, Winona Health, Winona, MN; Karen Blandini, Bedford Veterans Hospital, Bedford, MA; and Tina Lyon, Sutter Davis Hospital, Davis, CA; and AHA Chair-Elect Gene Woods.
hospitals as they advance health in America.

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**Join Us in Supporting Community Hospitals**

Interested in supporting the valuable contributions of community hospitals? Invite all your volunteers to join the AHA-supported Coalition to Protect America’s Health Care to fight to protect quality care for all Americans.

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**Do We Have Your Current Information?**

Please send updates to the State Auxiliary Leaders Roster to Meg Leahy, mleahy@aha.org

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**Looking for a Conference Speaker?**

Check out the additions to list of speakers who might be appropriate for your next volunteer meeting. To add someone to the list, contact Joan Ryzner at jryzner@aha.org.

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**2016 HAVE Winners**

**Community Service Program**

*Doula Volunteer Program*
Sutter Davis Hospital
Davis, CA

**In-Service Hospital Volunteer Program**

*Storycatchers Program*
Longmont United Hospital
Longmont, CO

**Fundraising Program**

*Vettes to Vets*
Bedford Veterans Hospital
Bedford, MA

**Community Outreach and/or Collaboration Program**

*Community Care Network Health Coaches*
Winona Health
Winona, MN

A summary of the winning service areas and a slide show with photos and facts are available on the AHA volunteer webpage.

Nominations for the 2017 HAVE Awards open July 20 and are due September 23. For details, contact Joan Ryzner, AHA Director of Member Relations, at jryzner@aha.org.

A free webinar reviewing the 2017 nomination process and highlighting the winning 2016 programs is sponsored by AHA’s Association for Healthcare Volunteer Resource Professionals from 1 to 2 p.m. Wednesday, July 20. Registration opens early July and is open to non-members.

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**State Auxiliary Leaders Pledge to Partner in Health Care Transformation**

State Auxiliary Leaders from across the country and members of AHA’s Committee on Volunteers met in Washington, DC, in May to discuss patient and family engagement, legislative advocacy and overcoming risk management challenges for innovative programs.

In addition to networking, attendees shared information on the following volunteer service areas:

- Principles for new health care delivery models
- Pharmacy courier
- Collaborative fundraisers with competitor hospitals
- Patient transportation
- Diaper drives
- Weekly home-cooked dinners for families of ICU patients
Healing gardens
- Sewing
- Language interpretation
- Statewide awareness campaigns on Alzheimer’s disease, lung disease, military veterans and car safety
- Clothing drives for discharged emergency department patients
- Balloons to patients on New Year’s Day
- Concierge and wayfinding
- Behavioral health peer support
- Walking trails in the hospital
- Bottled water drives for Flint, MI
- Support for Medicaid expansion
- Scholarships
- Promoting nursing as a profession
- Financial assistance for prescriptions
- Hospitality houses

The next meeting of the State Auxiliary Leaders is May 6-8, in Washington, DC. Every state is encouraged to send a delegation. For information, contact Joan Ryzner at jryzner@aha.org.

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States that Participated in the 2016 SAL Meeting

Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin

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AHA Offers Videos as Resources

AHA invites volunteer leaders to use the video resources below to help tell the hospital story across the country:
Using photos from AHA members and its personal membership groups — no actors or stock photos — we say “Thank You” to the 5.6 million individuals who care for our family, friends, neighbors and community. Here’s the link to our new thank you video that the AHA premiered during National Hospital Week. It has quickly become (in less than 30 days) our highest performing video ever, with more than a half of a million views across platforms. It is truly a testament to the great work that hospitals do. The AHA is encouraging hospitals and health systems to use this YouTube link within their promotion and embed it on their websites.

As hospitals and health systems continue to move care beyond their “four walls,” this 30-second spot highlights for consumers how hospitals are changing to better protect their health. It is part of our Advancing Health in America initiative. We encourage members to embed the AHIA spot, “Where you need us. When you need us,” on their webpage. The commercial will be promoted in target markets across the country and online. In the coming months, the AHA will be sharing a toolkit to help amplify this message, followed by a series of community events to help localize the campaign. Visit www.AdvancingHealthinAmerica.org for resources.

All Are Invited to AHVRP Annual Conference

Volunteers, auxilians, retail managers and directors of volunteer services are invited to attend the AHVRP Annual Conference and Exposition October 8-11 in Atlanta, GA. This AHA-affiliated event is the only national conference devoted to health care volunteer services, and features educational sessions and networking opportunities for all.

Volunteers and auxilians are granted a discounted registration rate, regardless of when they register.
AHA Volunteer Committee Provides Valuable Input

The AHA Committee on Volunteers (COV) is off to robust start this year, providing valuable input to the American Hospital Association on a variety of critical health care issues:

- Workplace safety
- Ensuring health care access in vulnerable communities
- High cost of prescription drugs
- Federal legislative issues

The COV comprises volunteers, auxiliaries and directors of volunteers from hospitals across the country. The committee is also involved in selecting the Hospital Awards for Volunteer Excellence winners and supporting the AHA State Auxiliary Leaders network.

This year’s chair is Lynn Smith, a volunteer from CHI St. Vincent in Hot Springs, AR.

Need More Information on SALs?

This list of frequently asked questions about State Auxiliary Leaders and how AHA interacts with them may answer some questions. If you have suggestions or ideas, please contact Joan Ryzner at jryzner@aha.org.

Visit us at www.aha.org/about.volunteers/index.shtml