

# General Orders

NOVEMBER 2024



## VAVS NEEDS

### VAVS NEEDS

The VAVS Representatives have put out a 'needs' list to help replenish the current stock of items for the VA. In the back of these General Orders is a list of needed items and a link for an Amazon Wishlist. Please donate for the veterans and their families.

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### VFW QUARTERLY

#### PROGRAMS REPORT

If you have not entered your Community Service on the State Dashboard, please do so. If you are having trouble, please contact QM/ADJ Anna at the Department office. 605-332-7441 or

[anna@vfwdeptsd.com](mailto:anna@vfwdeptsd.com)

## VETERANS DAY

### NOVEMBER 11TH

Posts are urged to plan and implement a suitable program for Veterans Day. Remember, "No One Does More for Veterans!" Let's honor our brothers and sister by making sure they are celebrated.

After your event, update the Dashboard under Americanism > Veterans Day



## HAPPY THANKSGIVING, COMRADES

Wishing all our VFW members a heartfelt Happy Veterans Day and a warm Thanksgiving! May this season bring you peace, gratitude, and cherished moments with loved ones. Thank you for your service and sacrifice—you are the heart of our VFW family.

-State Commander, Glynis Collier

# Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Teacher of the Year

These are a few of our core programs we participate in nationally with the VFW. These programs are great for helping us shape America's future, while instilling a love for our Country and Veterans. We honor the teachers and students who go the extra mile to help make this country as great as it is. Submissions for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen have been closed and are ready for judging. The Department VOD, PP, and Teacher chair is Dan Klimisch. He can be contacted at 605-661-1254 or [danklimisch@hotmail.com](mailto:danklimisch@hotmail.com)

[www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org)



## VETERANS IN THE CLASSROOM MONTH

VETERANS IN THE CLASSROOM

For the members of the VFW and its Auxiliary, November is Veterans in the Classroom month. Each member is encouraged to volunteer to be presenters in the classroom.

After your event, make sure to update the State Dashboard for your community service to get the credit!

[www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org)

The 2<sup>nd</sup> membership dues reminder notices for 2024 was mailed to unpaid members in October. Post Officers should conduct a membership campaign to follow up on these notices.

## LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

JANUARY 12 & 13, 2025

The annual Legislative Conference is scheduled for the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of January, 2025. All VFW business and events will take place at AmericInn in Pierre, SD.

Registration and agendas coming soon.

[www.vfwsd.org](http://www.vfwsd.org)

**SEND ALL STUBS AND MONEY FOR THE COMMANDER'S RAFFLE TO THE  
DEPARTMENT OFFICE:**

**C/O Anna Arnold**

**1600 W Russell St, Ste 135**

**Sioux Falls, SD 57104**



**OFFICIAL:**



*Anna Arnold*

Quartermaster / Adjutant  
Department of South Dakota  
VFW

**BY ORDER OF:**

*Glynis Collier*

Commander  
Department of South Dakota  
VFW



Hello Heroes,

October was a fruitful and busy month. I attended the district 1 & 7 meetings and completed the inspections. I'd like to thank Inspector Oschner and SVC Christensen for inspecting Districts 4 & 6. The Department District inspections are now all complete in our first quarter. Way to go Team!

Chief Al Lipphardt held the State CDR Zoom Meeting on October 16, 2024 and briefed us on the natural disasters and how we are providing aid to those in need through the National Organization.

The Big 10 Conference was a huge success! CDR Cory Mahan and his crew set the bar very high for Iowa to follow. The accommodation, meals, entertainment and lodging were outstanding to say the least!

I was informed by ADJ/QM Arnold that the reservation and check for the Rapid City Stock Show Membership Drive has been submitted.

We have been planning our next joint project with our Auxiliary and it will kick off tomorrow Nov 1, 2024 and end December 1, 2021. Surgeon Pyka is your POC. She will publish something of her own that she will manage.

Way to go on Membership! We are still in the top Ten! JVC Vandenhoeck will update you regarding our Membership incentives.

VOD and PP application deadline is October 31, 2024. There may be some submission issues that will be managed by District #1 CDR Klimisch the Chairperson of our competition this year. Please contact him with any issues you may have with your submissions.

Don't forget your Teach of the Year Submissions! We should continue to show our appreciation to those who care for and teach our children each day.

Next on the list is Firefighter/EMT/Law Enforcement nominees to be submitted to your posts. SVC Christensen is your POC.

Legislative Conference is January 12-14, 2025 in Fort Pierre at the AmericInn. ADJ/QM Arnold is the POC for the department information chain. Please contact me if you have any ideas on how to capture the attention of our brand-new Legislators this year.

As always, I am honored and humbled to be working with you ALL as your Commander this year. I am always available to talk if you need a supportive and understanding ear.

## **“One Team, One Fight!”**

Very Respectfully,  
//Original Signed//  
Glynis Collier  
State Commander  
Department of South Dakota  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

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General Orders – November 2024 – Sr Vice Commander, Martin Christensen

During the month of October, I attended the Fall Conference 4-6 October in Oacoma in addition to simultaneously directing and participating in a trapshoot to raise funds for VFW Post 2750 and the local ALS Association. I visited and

inspected District 6 in Huron, SD on October 6. On October 12 we held our annual chili cook-off as a fundraiser and recruitment opportunity. I helped organize and participated in District Fall Conference on October 13 in Tyndall SD. I attended the Big Ten Conference in Indianapolis 18-20 October. On October 24, I attended the burial service in Philip, SD along with Art Escalante, the Commander of VFW Post 2750 for WWII Veteran, Earl Ferguson. Earl's remains were recovered from Belgium. I'm working on the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen scholarships as well as Teacher of the Year which are all due by Oct 31.

Membership for the Department as of 25 October is 91.65%. South Dakota is ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in the nation for membership. We need another 723 members to reach 102%. VFW Post 2750 is currently at 103%. District 7 is at 97.25%.

During the month of November, we plan to do recruiting and raffling of an M-1 Garand rifle 12-22 November. VFW Post 2750 will participate in a Veteran's Day program at the Davison County 4H grounds. We will work with American Legion Post 18, DAV Chapter 27, and 40&8. We plan to serve a meal free of charge to all veterans. The general public is invited. Guest speaker is Steve Morgan who will do a short presentation on the Civil War. Each service organization will present an award to the Veteran of the Year. Tom Oberembt is the recipient of this award for VFW Post 2750. VFW Post 2750 Auxiliary will recognize Wanda Kobes. Following this program, there will be a second presentation by Steve Morgan at VFW Post 2750 2-4pm. He will talk about the Veterans who have returned to Davison and Brule Counties following the Civil War. On November 6-7, we will be hosting a pheasant hunt fundraiser for the Sam Tronnes Memorial Foundation for the local hockey team and the Crazy Horse monument as well as for VFW 2750. VFW Post 2750 will use part of the funds raised to purchase flag poles for the cemetery. We raised pheasants this year to provide for the hunt. On Nov 29, we will be taking the Veteran's Service Officers and other veterans to a pheasant hunt near Spencer, SD.

I'd like to wish everyone a successful Veteran's Day celebration as well as a very happy Thanksgiving.

Respectfully submitted,

Martin Christensen, Sr Vice Commander VFW Dept of SD

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## November General Orders

### Jr. Vice Commander

This is my favorite time of the year. The mornings are cool, but the sun still has some power to warm up the day. It also means it is time to prepare for the upcoming winter. The west side of the state has already seen some of the start to winter.

In this past month, I attended Junior Vice Commander training in Kansas City. We had the opportunity to learn what the different offices at the national headquarters does and who to contact if we need assistance. We also had the opportunity to meet with all the other department Junior Vice Commanders and the national Junior Vice Commander. This will be our class running the VFW at our time of command. This was great training and great getting to know the other members of our class. I would recommend, if you have a chance, visiting the national headquarters.

Membership is always a big topic at all levels of the VFW. Our department is currently in 9<sup>th</sup> place in the nation for membership at 91.93%. This is pretty good for this time of the year. I want to challenge ourselves to be better. Now that the fair season and outdoor activities are slowing down, we need to be more creative in our recruiting efforts. I heard of an idea to set up a booth at gun shows. This might sound a little off from what we have done in

the past, but we do need to think outside the box in order to increase membership. Veteran's Day programs are also a good way to get the VFW visible.

Last month, the Commander and I put out a challenge for memberships. Mitchell post 2750 won that challenge. This month, there is a new challenge. The Post and the Individual with the newest members will each receive \$100. The caveat to this, a minimum of 5 new members needs to be signed up. I challenge each post to come up with incentives for either the recruiter or new member they can afford to increase membership also.

I am always willing to assist a post/district with membership. Please reach out to me and we can come up with good plans for events.

Rick Vanden Hoek

Jr. Vice Commander



HOMETOWN

# HEROES *Night*

**Thursday, November 14 • 6:30 pm • Sanford Pentagon**

**Skyforce vs. Cleveland Charge**

**Halftime ceremony to honor enlistees from the US Air Force, Army, Marines and Navy.**

**FREE** tickets for recruits, families and recruiters as well as any other active, reserve or retired military/national guard personnel.

For the halftime ceremony, we will have the enlistees march onto the court with a color guard, then have an officer administer the oath.

Please have your group lined up in the concourse area by Court 8 (Northeast side of the Pentagon) with 4:00 remaining in the second quarter.

If you would like to set up a recruiting display or bring items to giveaway to fans at the game, please let us know.



**Scan the Code**  
to get tickets

Subject: Request for Chaplain Email Addresses

Dear State/Department Chaplains,

For the past several years I have been sending out regular updates and resources to VFW Chaplains via email. These emails are designed to help chaplains carry out their responsibilities and become more effective as they minister to Post members and their families.

In addition to the emails, we have conducted monthly Zoom training classes for the past two years. The link to the Zoom training, along with the subject to be covered, are included in the emails.

Our goal is to educate and train chaplains to become more effective. It also facilitates better collaboration and support amongst our VFW chaplains.

To be added to my Email Distribution List a chaplain would simply contact me at [PeterHook@verizon.net](mailto:PeterHook@verizon.net) or contact me by phone 267-229-7722.

There are many VFW chaplains who are not aware of the emails, the zoom training, or the Chaplains Handbook and other resources that have been produced. I would appreciate it if you would provide me with the names and email addresses of chaplains within your respective jurisdictions or spread the word and have those chaplains contact me directly. Having direct lines of communication will enable us to share resources, offer mutual support, and coordinate efforts more effectively.

I understand the importance of privacy and confidentiality, and I assure you that this information will be handled with the utmost care and respect. Our goal is to create a robust network that benefits all VFW chaplains and the communities we serve.

Thank you for considering this request. I look forward to your positive response.

Yours in Comradeship,



**Rev. Peter R. Hook**

National Chaplain 2024-25  
Eastern Conference Chaplain  
PA State Chaplain  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
534 Parkvale Ave.  
Langhorne, PA 19047  
267-229-7722  
Fax 215-750-1511  
[PeterHook@verizon.net](mailto:PeterHook@verizon.net)







# Sioux Falls VA Health Care System Center for Development & Civic Engagement (Formerly VA Voluntary Service)

(605) 336-3230, ext.6806

VHASUXVOLUNTARY@VA.GOV

**Office hours: 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM Monday through Friday  
(excluding federal Holidays)**

Dear Community Partners,

Thank you for supporting our Veterans! Please make sure all donations include your full name, mailing address, and telephone number.

## ITEMS ACCEPTED FOR DONATION

### New Clothing (in order of Priority)

- Clothing items must have tags or be sealed in original packaging.

- Clothing sizes M-6XL in plain colors
- Shoes size 7 through 15

1. Winter Coats (full size run)
2. Sweatpants (full size run)
3. Sweatshirts (full size run)
4. T-shirts (full size run/Men and Women)
5. Underwear (S- 2XL)
6. Shoes (athletic or slip-on, to include Wide)
7. Long Sleeve T-Shirts (full size run/ Men and women)
8. Winter Scarves/Hats/Gloves (durable long lasting)

### General Items (in order of Priority)

All items should be new (unused) and unexpired.

1. Prepaid cell phones (i.e., TracFone)
2. Prepaid cell phone minutes/cards
3. Household Cleaning items (laundry soap, dish soap, towels. Etc.)
4. Household Paper Products (toilet paper, paper towels, kleenex etc.)

### Gift Cards

Recommended values are \$15-\$100.

1. Gasoline (Get-n-Go, BP, Casey's)
2. Food (Fareway, Hy-Vee, Wal Mart, Target)
3. Restaurant (Buffalo Wild Wings, Applebees, McDonalds, Subway, Olive Garden, Perkins, Burger King)
4. American Express, Visa, Mastercard.
5. Movie Theater, Bowling, Golfing, Great Bear, etc.



### Hygiene Items

Hygiene items should be new (unused), unexpired/fresh, **alcohol free**, individually packaged, and factory sealed.

- |                                 |                                     |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| ✓ Body lotion                   | ✓ Hairbrushes                       |
| ✓ Body wash                     | ✓ Hair combs                        |
| ✓ Denture cleaner               | ✓ Mouthwash ( <b>alcohol free</b> ) |
| ✓ Denture adhesive              | ✓ Nail clippers/filer (finger/toe)  |
| ✓ Deodorant                     | ✓ Shampoo/conditioner               |
| ✓ Disposable razors (3+ blades) | ✓ Shaving cream                     |
|                                 | ✓ Toothbrushes/Toothpaste           |

## ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED FOR DONATION

- × USED ITEMS    × Artwork or Memorabilia    × Books/magazines    × Medical equipment or devices    × DVD/VHS tapes
- × Miscellaneous paper goods (i.e., notepads, calendars)    × Advertising item



**Sioux Falls VA Health Care System  
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**MONETARY DONATIONS FOR ONGOING NEEDS**

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Fiscal donations can be hand delivered to the Sioux Falls VA Health Care System, room 318-1 / 319-1 or mailed to:

Sioux Falls VA Health Care System  
Attn: Voluntary Service (135)  
2501 W. 22<sup>nd</sup> St.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

**Please make checks payable to the “Sioux Falls VA Health Care System”** and indicate what the funds should be in the memo line. Reference the table below for the General Post Fund (GPF) categories. For a full list of GPFs, please contact Voluntary Service.

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<b>CATEGORY/TITLE</b>	<b>GENERAL POST FUND (GPF)</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<b>Patient Holiday Fund</b>	3070	Donations to this account provide funds to purchase items for patients and fund the events themselves.
<b>Unrestricted</b>	3170	Donations to this account encompass all non-specific donations. This fund is utilized for a variety of patient needs including, but not limited to, hygiene products and coffee service.
<b>Emergent Needs Fund</b>	3060	Donations to this account are used to patient’s emergent needs.
<b>Transportation</b>	3160	Donations to this account are used to provide transportation for VA medical appointments.
<b>Recreation Fund</b>	3110	Donations to this account provide funds for any recreation events or activities for Veterans.

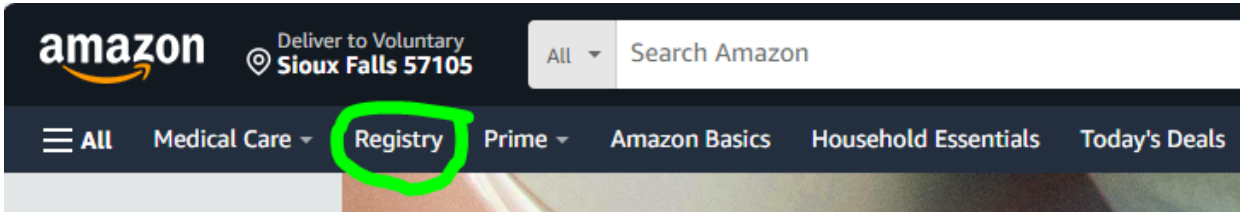
**ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED FOR DONATION**

- × USED ITEMS x Artwork or Memorabilia x Books/magazines x Medical equipment or devices x DVD/VHS tapes
- × Miscellaneous paper goods (i.e., notepads, calendars) x Advertising item

# How to Find the Amazon Wish List-Registry for Voluntary Services

Login to your Amazon account. [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com)

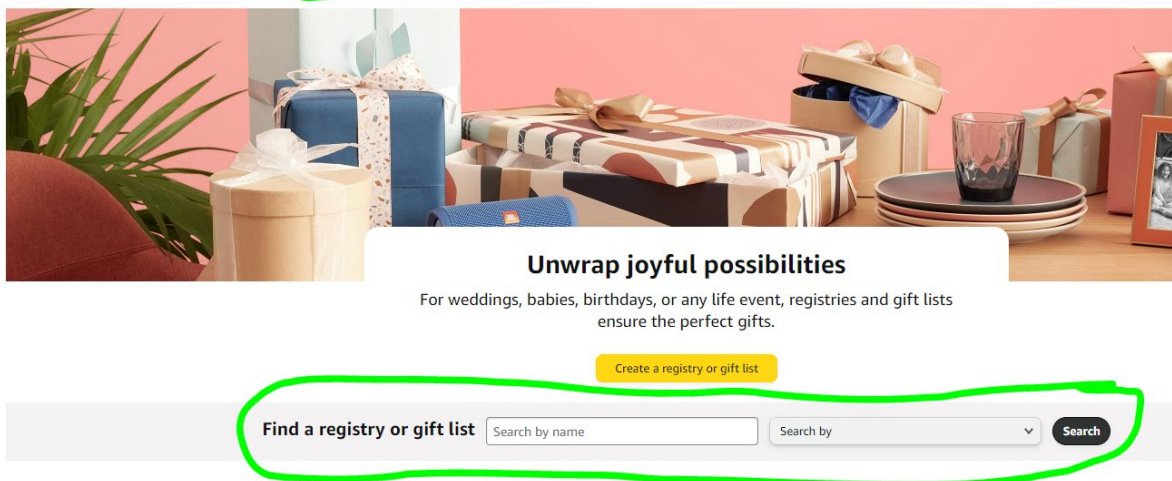
Once logged into the account, you will find the Registry location at the top of the screen.



Once on the Registry page you will have two options to find the registry. One at the top in a drop down, or in the middle of the screen where it says Find a registry or gift list. We are listed as:

## \*Sioux Falls Voluntary under GIFT LIST

registry & gifting Your Registries & Gift Lists Find a registry or gift list Create a registry or gift list Help



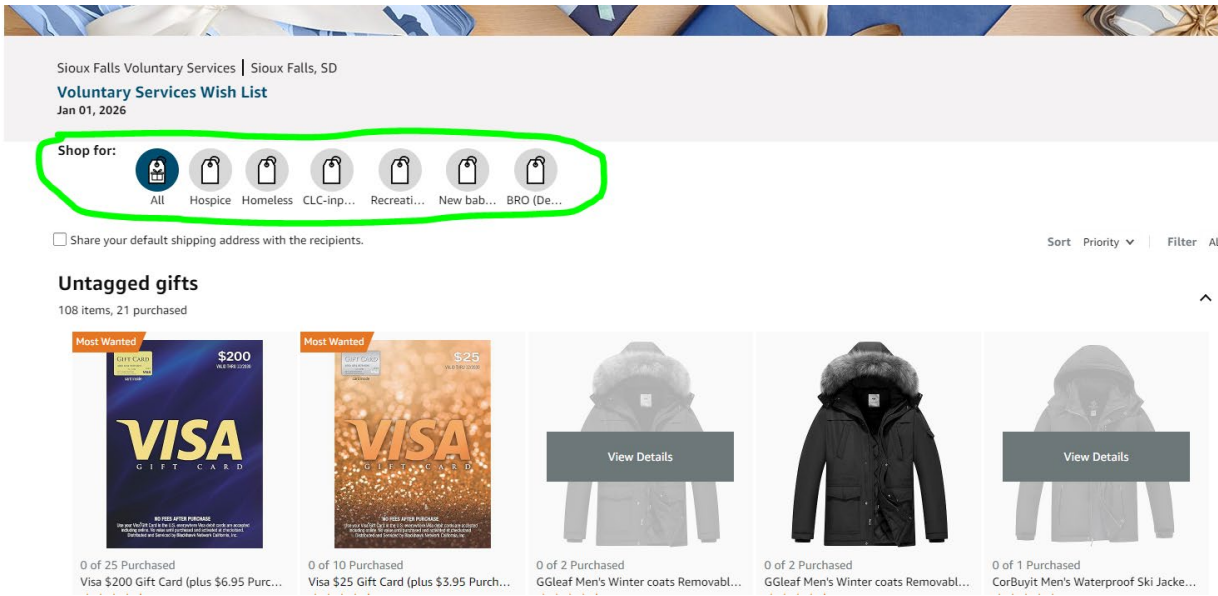
## Select from either Wish List by clicking on the list

registry & gifting Your Registries & Gift Lists Find a registry or gift list Create a registry or gift list Help

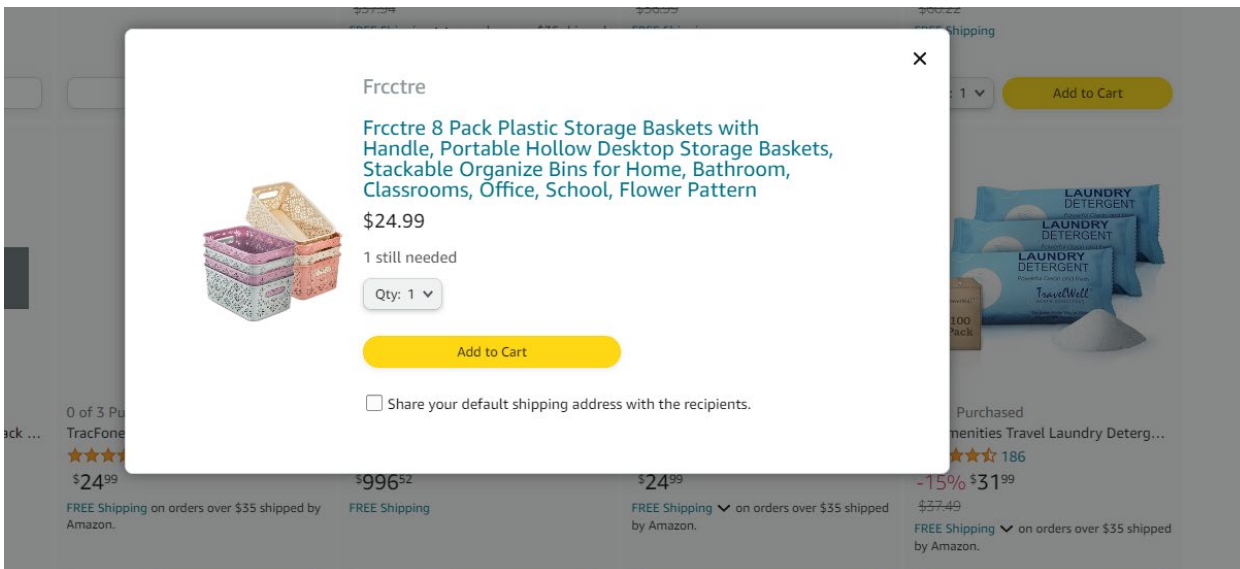
Search results for "sioux falls voluntary"

Registrant	Gift List Title	Event type	Date	Event Location
Sioux Falls Voluntary	CLC wish list	Custom Gift List	Oct 01, 2026	SD
Sioux Falls Voluntary Services	Voluntary Services Wish List	Custom Gift List	Jan 01, 2026	SD

Once you are in the list the items will appear. They will be grouped by department if they are being specifically requested by that department or they will be in the ALL untagged gifts.



Once you have decided on an item, you are able to pick the quantity and where you would like for this item to be shipped when you add to the cart.



When you check out and pay **\*\*IF\*\*** you choose to have the items sent to the Sioux Falls VA, please let us know that they will be coming so our receiving team does not send them back by accident. Items delivered directly to the Sioux Falls VA will be sent an acknowledgment letter and you or your organization will be given credit. Please reach out to the CDCE office if you have any questions or concerns at [VHASUXVOLUNTARY@va.gov](mailto:VHASUXVOLUNTARY@va.gov)