

Jesse Brown VA Medical Center

Chicago, IL

VAVS Representative, Joanne York

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Now that the holidays are over please don't forget our veterans.

The Stand Down at the Northwest Armory was once again a success. Over 600 veterans were served at a cost of over \$2,000.00. They were served a hot breakfast sandwich like an Egg McMuffin, juice and coffee. Lunch was baked chicken, potatoes and vegetables. They were also given bags of food to last them several days. They also received clothes and other items donated to the hospital for the Stand Down. There were volunteers providing them other help as needed. Thank you to those that helped by volunteering or donating items.

The USA Report had an unfavorable article about the VA. Mr. Marc Magill, our Medical Center Director, was happy to say that we are not on the list. He did have to fire a couple of employees and if they go to the press and the press wants to talk to him, he will not say no comment. He will tell it like it is.

Coming in 2018 Jesse Brown VAMC is going SMOKELESS; Mr. Magill is not waiting for the law to be passed. He feels it is very important to have the hospital smokeless Second-Hand Smoke free, not only for the patients, but staff, volunteers and visitors. Mr. Magill has his own Facebook page where he did a video about Joe, who was a smoker. He asked us to share it with everyone. So, if you are on Facebook take a look at it.

We are always looking for volunteers. Would you like to be a Red Coat Ambassador? You will monitor different entrances and exits where you will be active and interact with those in need, either Veterans or Visitors. Should a person need help finding where they need to be, you will direct them. Commitment 4-5 hours one day per week between 7am-4:30pm Monday - Friday. Questions, please call 312-569-6109 or contact Patrick.Gleason@va.gov, We need 4-5 people per shift. Perhaps you or your Auxiliary members or friends might like to volunteer for a shift together.

Upcoming events at the hospital

February 8 -VAVS Winter Sale, 8am-2:00pm, food pantry area.

February 14th should be our Salute to Veterans Party. The veterans will have lunch and there will be entertainment.

Thank you for all you do for our veterans.