

## Local Communities Can Support Maryland's Veterans This GivingTuesday

Dear VSO Commanders, Presidents and Representatives:

On this GivingTuesday—November 28—please consider sharing the following information with friends, neighbors and community members who might be interested in supporting the needs of Maryland's Veterans this holiday season.

Created in 2012, GivingTuesday is a global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate and celebrate generosity before the holidays, and enables participants to turn good intentions into action.

Each year, hundreds of Veterans spend the holidays at a VA Maryland Health Care System inpatient facility. Many of these hospitalized Veterans may not have an opportunity to see their family members or friends during the holiday season. On GivingTuesday and throughout the year, community members and local organizations can support Veteran inpatients by making a donation to the VA Maryland Health Care System's Holiday Gift Program, which provides a gift bag valued at \$70 to each hospitalized Veteran at the Baltimore, Loch Raven and Perry Point VA Medical Centers during the holiday season.

The holidays can be a very lonely and challenging time of year for many people, but this is even more evident for veterans who are hospitalized and far from their loved ones. GivingTuesday is a wonderful opportunity to remind Maryland's hospitalized Veterans that their service in the armed forces has not been forgotten.

Local community members can make a donation by visiting [Pay.gov - VA Capitol Health Care Network: VISN 5 Donation Form](#), clicking on "Continue to the Form," and selecting "VA Maryland Health Care System (Baltimore, Loch Raven & Perry Point VA Medical Centers) under "Facility," or by calling 410-642-2411, ext. 25409.

Thank you.

Jonathan R. Eckman, P.E  
Director, VA Maryland Health Care System



