

For all those who fought for “One Nation Under GOD.”

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Background

- The James H. Quillen Veteran Affairs Medical Center provides care to thousands of patients daily.
- The hospital contains 420 beds, the nursing home has 150 beds (70 are currently occupied), and the domiciliary provides services to over 600 veterans.
- As a pharmacy school, we are unique in the fact that our campus was built by the VA. When we raised enough money in the community to start a pharmacy school, the VA was more than willing to provide us with a place to learn.
- When discussing our Hands and Feet Grant, we thought this population would be the perfect way to give back, since they have given us so much over the years.

Purpose

- We felt nursing home residents should be appreciated for their services to our country.
- Veterans in the domiciliary have a high need for basic hygiene care, so we wanted to close this gap. We also wanted to share the mission of CPFI by spreading the gospel.

Methods

- Student pharmacists reached out to donation coordinators at the VA to determine what was needed most and where to bring donations.
- To celebrate Veteran’s Day in November, a CPFI meeting was held to make cards that were donated to the nursing home residents. These included relevant Bible verses.
- We wanted to provide devotionals to further the mission of CPFI in veterans who are experiencing a tough time or who did not know the Lord.
- To involve the entire school in the Hands and Feet project, a hygiene donation drive was held for 2 months.
- \$750 obtained from the Hands & Feet Grant was used to buy hygiene products and devotionals which were donated in March.



Results

- As a chapter, we wrote 70 cards (the amount of nursing home residents) to thank them for their service on Veteran’s Day.
- Our CPFI EC board spent an evening shopping at a local Christian outlet and retail store to obtain supplies.
- 68 devotional books, denture supplies, toothbrushes, toothpaste, wipes, deodorant, soap, shaving cream, chapstick, and razors were purchased.
- Chapter President Chelsie Crussell, Vice President Dottie Smith and Secretary Mackenzie Johnson went together to the donation center two separate times to donate the items.
- The Mountain Home VA received three tubs of these supplies to distribute to veterans as needed. Due to COVID Restrictions still in place, we were unable to distribute the supplies ourselves.
- We ran into several veterans and staff members in the lobby who thanked us for the donations and time we put in!

Conclusions

- The VA in Mountain Home Tennessee extends services to many who served one nation under God. It is a privilege to volunteer or donate items to such a respectable population.
- The CPFI Hands & Feet Grant allowed our chapter to acquire items to give to these veterans.
- This project has opened other opportunities for our CPFI chapter to work with the VA in the future with more volunteer opportunities and health fairs.
- Without help from James H. Quillen Medical center, we would not be able to call our campus home. It is our hope to continue supporting one another for the advancement of health care as a whole.

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