



Illinois State Organization NSDAR State Information Packet DAR Service for Veterans Committee



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DAR chapters in Illinois perform a wide variety of activities and services for veterans. The VA Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE), which partners with the DAR Veteran Affairs Voluntary Services (VAVS), recognizes three distinct categories of veteran assistance. The first category is in-patient service which may include activities at the Veteran's facility such as reading to a patient, letters and cards to patients, decorating a veteran's hospital room, or engaging in games and other events at the Veteran's Facility. The second is outpatient service such as Meals on Wheels or transporting veterans to and from hospital visits. The third category is community-based activities in which veterans are invited to participate. Many of our veteran events fall into the third category and have been very creative!

Contact your local VAVS Representative or Deputy Representative for a "wish list" from one of the ten Veteran Medical Centers or Veteran Homes near you. You can find the current list of VAVS Representatives and Deputies on the Illinois State Organization members' website under the SIP tab for the DAR Service for Veterans Committee. A list of the Hospitals for Veterans in Illinois is included on page 50 of the ISO, NSDAR 2025-2026 Roster.

Please be sure that your chapter members record their service hours for Service to America and document donations that are both goods and monetary. The number of adult and youth volunteers for your veteran events is also part of the CMR.

The DAR Service for Veterans Committee sponsors three awards:

1. **Outstanding Veteran Volunteer Award** – A non-DAR member or DAR veteran member. The sponsoring chapter must be in the state where the veteran lives.
2. **Outstanding Youth Volunteer Award** – A non-DAR member or C.A.R. member presented to a youth volunteer who provides service for veterans and is 14 to 21 years of age.
3. **Outstanding DAR Service for Veterans Award** - presented to a DAR member in recognition of outstanding care given to veterans in Department of Veterans Affairs facilities, state veterans facilities, nursing homes, shelters, and outpatient clinics.

Plan ahead to begin the selection process to nominate outstanding veteran volunteers for their service. **The deadline for submission is December 15, 2025.** The process requires a volunteer resume and letters of recommendation which may take time to collect. Previously nominated candidates may be eligible for resubmission. Nominees need to be elected by the chapter.

Instructions for Chapter Chairs may be found at:

<https://www.dar.org/system/files/members/darnet/forms/DSFV-1007.pdf>. Please note that photos may not be included with nominations. All documents must be submitted electronically.

Visit the NSDAR website at www.dar.org/members, DAR Service for Veterans Committee, for the 2025 revised edition forms or contact this State Chairman or one of the Vice Chairmen.