

Jesse Brown VA Donation Needs List — 2024
Center for Development and Civic Engagement-CDCE
(formerly Voluntary Service)

All donations to our program are 100% tax deductible and you will receive a thank you letter and copy of the donation memo if desired.

Section 1: Monetary Donations.....page 2
Section 2: Item (in-kind) Donations.....page 5
Section 3: Veteran Food Insecurity Programs.....page 7
Section 4: Household Items for Newly Housed and Veterans in Need.....page 8

If you have questions or to arrange for a drop off (please try to arrange at least three business days in advance) please call 312-569-6109 Mon-Fri from 7am-3pm, or email CHS_VoluntaryServiceTeam@va.gov. We can arrange to meet you at your car with a cart. We may not be available to accept unscheduled drop offs.

Jesse Brown VA Monetary Donations Needs List

Monetary donations help us fulfill the promise of caring for 'Those Who Served.'
We accept check, cash and electronic donations (credit/debit).

Checks should be written to Jesse Brown VAMC and mailed to:

Jesse Brown VAMC
Attn: CDCE (135)
820 S. Damen Ave.
Chicago, Il 60612

Please indicate in the check memo or on a note what area listed below that you would like the funds deposited to. You will receive an acknowledgment letter and a receipt of deposit in the mail.

For credit card/ debit donations, please go to

<https://www.pay.gov/public/form/entry/101/53167010/>

For cash donations please call (312) 569-6109 to speak to a staff member to discuss the donation process.

Please note that all donations are tax deductible, and 100% of monetary donations are used as donated- there are no 'administrative fees'. All of these programs are designed to have a positive impact on the Veterans health, dignity, and sense of being valued by the community.

Monetary Donation Needs:

General Needs – a donation to this fund can be used to support any of the programs below or to meet a unique situation in support of a Veteran in need. This is the most flexible type of donation and is very useful in supporting Veterans.

Food Program for Veterans Facing Food Insecurity – please see the food program needs list below. Monetary donations can be used to support all aspects of this program.

Homeless Program Fund – donating to this fund supports the various needs of our homeless Veterans

Emergency Transportation Fund/ Ride Share Program — this fund is for discharged patients with no transportation options and patients that are stranded following appointments. This may include the need for Ventra Cards for public transit, wheelchair vehicles or an occasional need for an ambulance ride home after discharge. THIS IS OUR FASTEST GROWING NEED!

Social Work Service Emergency Fund – donating to this fund provides a resource to deal with a variety of Veteran emergencies that impact the Veteran and their family.

Recreation Therapy Program Fund – donating to this fund provides our Veterans with unique opportunities to use recreation as therapy to improve their lives.

National VA Games Fund – donating to this fund provides a resource for Veterans to take advantage of numerous national events that evolve around the arts and sporting event competition. These activities are therapeutic and provide the Veteran with a sense of dignity and accomplishment and is often a 'once in a lifetime opportunity'.

Women's Health Program – a donation to this fund supports numerous activities for women Veterans, including special events (such as baby showers) and emergencies facing women Veterans and their families.

Crown Pt. Indiana Outpatient Clinic Fund – a donation to this fund will support activities and needs for the Veterans that we serve at the Adam Benjamin, Jr. Outpatient Clinic in Crown Pt., IN.

Caregiver Support Program — a donation to this fund provides training opportunities and support for those that provide care for our Veterans that are at home but need a family member or friend to assist on a regular basis.

Coffee Supply Fund — donating to this fund provides our outpatients with coffee and a chance to relax during their visit.

Holiday Fund — donating to this fund allows us to help our Veterans enjoy the various holidays by supporting the costs of special events and other holiday activities. This provides a sense of normalcy and shows the Veteran that the community is with them at the holidays.

Jesse Brown VA Item (In-Kind) Donations Needs List

*Please note that all donations are 100% tax deductible.

Jewel/Aldi/Walmart Gift Cards — these will be used by our staff to purchase and deliver groceries to our Veterans and families in dire need of food support. Any denomination works but \$20-\$25 each works best.

Shelf stable groceries and 'pop-top' single serve food items — please see the attached 'food programs' needs list.

Household essentials – please see the attached 'household essentials' needs list.

Walmart, Target gift cards – these will be used by staff and/or Veterans to purchase household items needed when they have no other options — usually basic supplies such as toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, cleaners, etc. Any denomination is helpful but \$20-\$25 each works best.

Subway, McDonald's etc. gift cards – these are given to Veterans to use to purchase a meal when the need is recognized by a social worker. \$10 denomination works best for this program.

Gas station gift cards – \$50 denomination works best for Veterans that have a car but need gas to get home, to work, or to a medical appointment.

Baby items for new parents (all must be new) – diapers (size N, 1 & 2); wipes; baby bath tubs; bouncy seats.

Clothing donations – WE ACCEPT NEW AND VERY GENTLY USED CLOTHING (undergarments and socks must be new and in unopened packaging). THE CLOTHING MUST BE LAUNDERED AND FOLDED, PLACED IN A BOX, A BAG THAT IS STRONG ENOUGH TO HOLD THE ITEMS (PLEASE DO NOT USE OVERSIZE BAGS- KITCHEN SIZE BAGS ARE BEST), OR ON HANGERS.

We accept the following adult sized items (all sizes are needed).

An * indicates it is a big need. We do accept women's clothing, but our biggest need is for men's items:

- > shoes and boots*
- > belts*
- > jeans*, docker style pants*, sweat pants
- > shorts, t-shirts, polos
- > sweatshirts, long sleeve t-shirts, sweaters
- > raincoats*, light jackets*
- > winter coats*, gloves and hats
- > men's underwear* and undershirts* (Must be new and in packaging)
- > women's underwear* and sports bras* (Must be new and in packaging or on original hanger for sports bra)

Food Insecurity Program Needs List

*Please note that all donations are 100% tax deductible

Shelf stable grocery items (not single serve) for Veterans facing food insecurity (regularly worry about availability of food for themselves or their family).

Examples: peanut butter and jelly; canned tuna/salmon; soup; pastas and sauces; rice; mac and cheese; cereal; ramen; canned vegetables and fruits; canned chili; beans; granola bars; crackers; other shelf stable items.

Single serve 'pop top' or easy-to-open food items: we use these items for Veterans that are facing immediate hunger when they report to the VA and for Veterans (perhaps homeless) that have no place to store shelf stable items.

Examples: microwavable meals; soups; mac and cheese; pastas; tuna (dry packages); trail mix; mixed nuts; meat sticks; jerky; protein and granola bars; peanut butter or cheese cracker packs; fruit and applesauce cups; bottled water, sports drinks (Gatorade).

Jewel/Aldi/Walmart Gift Cards — these will be used by our staff to purchase and deliver groceries to our Veterans and families in dire need of food support. Any denomination works but \$20-\$25 each works best.

Household Items for Newly Housed Veterans In Need

Kitchen:

Trash can
Dish cloths/dish towels
Sponge
Dish rack
Mop
Broom/dust pan
Pots/pans
Salt/pepper set
Plastic cups/glassware set
Cooking utensils
Dishes
Flatware
Dish soap
Plastic food containers

Bathroom:

Shower liner and rings
Bath towels
Wash cloths
Trash can
Toilet brush
Toothbrush holder
Toilet bowl brush
Plunger
Miscellaneous:
Flashlight/batteries
Garbage bags
Laundry basket
Basic tool set
Aluminum foil
Plastic wrap

Bedroom:

Full size sheet sets
Pillows
Blankets/comforters
Hangers

Supplies:

Toilet paper
Paper towels
Laundry detergent
Dish soap
Window cleaner
Toilet bowl cleaner
All purpose cleaner