



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Veterans Affairs Invites Community to Join National Salute

OMAHA, Neb., January 30, 2013 — Valentine's Day is a great time to say thanks to America's Veterans. The Department of Veterans Affairs invites the community to say thank you during the National Salute to Veteran Patients week, Feb. 11 through 16.

During this week, VA health care staff, volunteers and community organizations honor these men and women for their selfless sacrifices and service. During the National Salute, VA strives to offer more than excellent health care – the staff offer patients a genuine connection with family, friends and the communities where they live.

Everyone has the opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of Veterans in the community at their local VA health care facilities through the Valentines for Veterans program. Individuals, Veterans groups, military personnel, civic organizations, businesses, schools, or anyone who wishes is encouraged to deliver valentines or mail to Veterans at one of the Nebraska or western Iowa VA health care facilities. VA staff will give these Valentines to Veteran patients throughout the week.

Addresses for the VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System locations are available at <http://www.nebraska.va.gov>. To send valentines, mail to your local VA health care facility and mark in care of "Valentines for Veterans."

Community organizations are also encouraged to take the extra step to visit America's heroes at one of NWIHCS's main facilities in Omaha, Lincoln or Grand Island, Neb., during National Salute week. To schedule a visit during the week of Feb. 11 through 16, call 402-995-3283 or 3284 for Omaha, 402-486-7879 for Lincoln, or 308-382-3660, ext. 92146 in Grand Island.

An additional way to show Veterans that you care every day is to sign up to volunteer at a VA health care facility. Information is available at <http://www.nebraska.va.gov/giving/index.asp>

About VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System

The VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System's mission is to honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being. VA NWIHCS employees serve more than 161,000 Veterans in Nebraska, western Iowa and portions of Kansas and Missouri. The system includes a tertiary medical center in Omaha and a Community Living Center in Grand Island, Neb. Community-based outpatient clinics are located in Lincoln, Grand Island, North Platte, Norfolk, and Bellevue, Neb., and Shenandoah, Iowa; and a contract outreach clinic in O'Neill, Neb. For more information, visit <http://www.nebraska.va.gov>

For further information, contact:

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