



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **VA to Hold Stand Down for Veterans**

**LINCOLN, Neb., Sept. 2, 2014** — Homeless Veterans can come in from the cold to get assistance and a hot meal at a “Stand Down” Oct. 1 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Pinnacle Bank Arena, Haymarket, 400 Pinnacle Arena Drive.

The event is being held in conjunction with a community-wide Project Homeless Connect.

The VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System (NWIHCS) will provide free services for homeless Veterans who are eligible for VA health care to include health screening and a general VA assessment. In addition, Veterans can receive limited free clothing and a hot meal. Free child care is available for Veterans attending with children.

Veterans are encouraged to enroll for VA health care benefits before the event at the VA Clinic at 600 S. 70<sup>th</sup> Street, Lincoln. However, Veterans who are not enrolled for VA health care benefits can register at the Stand Down and receive information about the available services.

Stand Down is a military term that means service members are removed from the combat field to receive rest and rehabilitation. It is one of many opportunities for the VA to reach out and connect with homeless Veterans to provide them much-needed rest and rehabilitation.

“Our Veterans honorably served America. This is our opportunity to serve them,” said Linda Twomey, VA NWIHCS Mental Health Specialty Programs director. “The Stand Down is one of the VA’s many programs to reach out and serve homeless Veterans in our communities.”

### **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>

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