



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Veterans Affairs to Hold Open House in S. Sioux City, Neb. *Outreach initiative provides info, VA help to rural-area Veterans*

OMAHA, Neb., Sept. 2, 2014 — A Veterans of the Armed Forces Open House to provide veterans information and assistance with U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits and services takes place Sept. 5 and 6 at American Legion/VFW Post 307, 109 E. 19th St, S. Sioux City, Neb.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is partnering with the Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs, Veteran service agencies, county Veteran service officers and military transition assistance advisors to bring information and services at a Veterans of the Armed Forces Open House.

Veterans and their family members with questions about benefits are encouraged to visit the open house between 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 5 and from 10a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept 6.

Representatives from the following agencies will be available to provide veterans assistance and information: Veterans Health Administration representatives from facilities in Nebraska, Iowa, and South Dakota; Veterans Benefit Administration Regional Office; Vet Centers; Nebraska Department of Veterans Affairs; and the Nebraska National Guard Transition Assistance Advisor. Community agencies that provide Veteran services will also be available.

Veterans who are not currently enrolled for VA benefits are encouraged to bring their DD Form 214, "Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty," to the open house to assist the agency counselors assess individual eligibility for VA benefits. VA counselors will assist veterans to complete eligibility and enrollment applications.

For additional information about the event, contact Will Ackerman at 800-451-5796, ext. 94719; or Bill Johnston at (402) 987-2120.

The open house is targeted toward veterans who live in the following counties: Cherokee, Crawford, Ida. Monona, Plymouth, and Woodbury, Iowa; Antelope, Boone, Burt, Colfax, Cumings, Cedar, Dakota, Dodge, Dixon, Knox, Madison, Pierce, Stanton, Thurston, Washington, Wayne, Neb.; Clay, Lincoln, Minnehaha, Turner, Union, and Yankton, S.D.

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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