



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **Nebraska, W. Iowa VA to Host Veterans' Town Hall Aug. 26 'Listening Sessions' aim to Seek Feedback, Improve VA System**

**OMAHA, Neb., Aug. 18, 2014** — VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System senior leadership will hold a Veterans' Town Hall at 9 a.m. Aug. 26 in the auditorium at its clinic at 600 S. 70th St., Lincoln, Neb.

The town hall is designed to gain open and honest feedback from veterans, their family members and other beneficiaries.

Senior leadership and other subject-matter experts from the local VA health system will be present to improve communication with and hear directly from veterans and their families.

VA also welcomes input from congressional stakeholders, veteran service organizations, non-governmental organizations and other community partners at the meeting.

Following the town hall, representatives from various VA programs will be available to provide assistance to veterans who may not be enrolled in the health care system.

"Caring for Veterans is a calling, and our first commitment is to provide veterans and their families the timely, quality care and benefits they have earned and deserve through their service to our nation," said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert McDonald. "As we seek continual improvement and to rebuild trust among veterans, it is critical that we continue to listen and learn directly from those who use our system."

Secretary McDonald informed the Under Secretaries of Health and Benefits that each VA medical center and regional office should hold at least one town-hall meeting with veterans before the end of September.

For more information, contact Will Ackerman at [VHANWIPUBLICAFFAIRS@va.gov](mailto:VHANWIPUBLICAFFAIRS@va.gov) or call 402-995-4719.

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### **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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