



Veterans Health Administration

VA NEBRASKA-WESTERN IOWA HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Veterans Affairs Health System to Participate in Nationwide 'Stand Down #2: Road to myAccess' Saturday

OMAHA, Neb. — VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System employees will participate in the VA's nationwide "Stand Down #2: Road to myAccess" Saturday.

The event is a nationwide effort being undertaken by the Veterans Health Administration at VA medical centers across the nation to focus efforts to reduce the number of patients currently waiting the longest for care and to foster a culture of continuous improvement in the VA's health care system.

Overall, while VA Nebraska-Western Iowa HCS has timely access to care, the focus will be on a few select clinics where wait times are slightly longer than desired.

A team of clinical leaders and administrators will be on site at the Omaha, Grand Island, and Lincoln VA campuses to focus on trimming the backlog in areas like audiology, substance abuse treatment and prevention, mental health and primary care.

The goal is to reach out to all veterans identified as having the most important and acute needs to make sure VA Nebraska-Western Iowa HCS is meeting their health care needs.

VA Nebraska-Western Iowa HCS already conducts some clinics on weekends, which will continue. Once the Access Stand Down is finished, the VHA will conduct an after-action review to identify successes, find gaps and see how those insights can be applied to future actions intended to improve access.

Access Stand Down efforts will continue after Saturday. VA Nebraska-Western Iowa HCS will continue to improve the system to better the health needs of those who need help the most.

For more information Access Stand Down, contact Will Ackerman at william.ackerman@va.gov or call 402-332-6780.

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About VA Nebraska-Western Iowa Health Care System

The VA NWIHCS is a Joint Commission-accredited, level-1c facility, which consists of a tertiary medical center in Omaha, Neb., and two larger clinics in Lincoln and Grand Island – which includes a community living center – five community-based outpatient clinics (CBOC) and one contract clinic. VA NWIHCS is part of the VA Midwest Health Care Network (VISN 23), which serves an estimated veteran population of 161,000 in 101 counties in Nebraska, western Iowa, Kansas and Missouri with an estimated 593,000 annual outpatient visits, and an operating budget of \$334 million as of October 2014.

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