

FOCUS



Advocacy

Be truly Veteran-centric by identifying, fully considering, and appropriately advancing the interests of Veterans and other beneficiaries.



Clowns add Calm Amusement to VA Hallways

On June 10, local TV affiliate, Fox 4 presented their “pay it forward” award to Diane Reynolds, a volunteer at the Kansas City VAMC. Diane was nominated by her fellow peers for her work as a clown during patient visits. Her and her fellow clowns

have volunteered at the KCVA for the past 6 years. This award was presented by surprise by Fox 4 in the presence of VA employees and volunteers who play a significant role in improving moral for both patients and staff. Additional surprise was added when

Veteran Danny Owen played his guitar and sang for the volunteer clowns and worked up quite the audience around our main entrance. This presentation aired on Fox 4 morning news on the 22nd of June.

Motor Cycle Club Donates Proceeds to KCVA Voluntary Services

On 9 May 2015 the Second Brigade Motorcycle Club held a Poker Run in Kansas City. They converged on the Kansas City Medical Center grounds early and departed to send a loud message that they support Veterans around our country in in your community. When finished they returned with over 500 dollars’ worth of donations and will be presenting this to the KCVA on 11 June at 10:00 a.m. The Second Brigade Motorcycle Club is an international organization with chapters in 22 states to include a chapter in Europe. The organization was founded in 1997 with the simple purpose and mission to support Veterans and keep awareness on the POW/MIA issue. Second Brigade has now founded a federally recognized charity named SBMC Welcome Home.



VBA Information

Please note that the KCVA does not have a Veterans Benefits Administration Office. Customers with VBA questions are encouraged to call the Veteran's Benefits Administration Nation Call Center at 1-800-827-1000 from 7-7. VBA's local number in Lee's Summit is 816-246-1411.

New VA Employment Program

The VA has announced a new employment program aimed at helping job-ready, formerly homeless veterans gain stable and long-term employment. The new program, Homeless Veterans Community Employment Services (HVCES), relies on Community Employment Coordinators (CECs) who work with local employers to identify suitable jobs based on a veteran's skills and abilities. Each VA Medical Center (VAMC) will have a dedicated CEC.

For more information about VA's homeless programs, visit <http://www.va.gov/homeless/>. If you know a veteran who is homeless or at imminent risk of becoming homeless, refer him or her to a local VAMC where homeless coordinators are ready to help. Veterans and their families can also call 1-877-4AID-VET to get connected to VA services.



Clinics Closed – 3 July
In observance of the 4th of July Holiday,
all clinics are closed on Friday, 3 July.

Veteran Town Hall Held in Nevada, MO

On 16 June the KCVA held its quarterly Town Hall meeting in Nevada, Mo. This gives us an opportunity to hear from our Veterans throughout the rural communities and keeps us working towards solving the issues encountered with remote care. A special thanks to the Nevada VFW for hosting us.



VA Mobile App Device to Assist in Patient Care / Outreach

The KCVA rolled out the VA Mobile App Program which is another way to reach out to our Veteran Patients. Among many uses, the VA Mobil App device will assist in our work with homeless Veterans. Kathryn Stefanowycz, (Social Worker), comments the device will assist homeless Veterans in applying for a government cell phone to increase the Veteran's connection to others, locating food pantries near Veteran homes, identifying upcoming appointments, and for our housing specialists, instant access to information about properties available

for rent. Mandy Shobe, (Social Worker) adds that Veteran can view photos of a property, local bus stops and stores for an area and make an educated decision about what properties to visit and/or to apply. Some properties have an online application that the Veteran would be able to complete in the community with the App device. This device increases our ability to bring the care to You.



Kansas City VA
Medical Center
4801 E. Linwood Blvd.
Kansas City, MO 64128
(816) 861-4700
www.kansascityva.gov

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