

## KCVA EVENTS

### Reminder

Flu shots are available at regularly scheduled appointments in most clinics.

### National Caregivers Month

November

For more information:  
<http://www.caregiver.va.gov/>

### National Disabled Veterans

#### Winter Sports Clinic

March 31<sup>st</sup> – April 6<sup>th</sup>.

Applications are being accepted by Kathy Ricker or Allison Smith in Rehab Medicine

For more information:  
Kathy Ricker x 52741  
Melissa Jacobson x52025  
Allison Smith x57600

# Veteran FOCUS

November  
2012



## New Radiation Therapy Facility

Please join us for an open house  
and ribbon cutting ceremony.

**December 7, 2012**

**2:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

**10500 Mastin Road  
Overland Park, KS 66212**



## Construction Updates

Construction starts 11/20/12 on the east sides of the 5<sup>th</sup> floor, 7<sup>th</sup> floor, and 10<sup>th</sup> floor.

5<sup>th</sup> floor east will become the new inpatient surgery area.

7<sup>th</sup> floor east will be new dialysis area.

10<sup>th</sup> floor east will be new inpatient psychiatry.

All emergency exit stair wells in the east side of the main building will be closed off on the construction floors.

Normal traffic for the 5<sup>th</sup> floor surgery area in the Valor building will only be accessible from the Valor elevators

**UNDER  
CONSTRUCTION**

# The KCVA Home Telehealth Program

The Kansas City VA Medical Center's Home Telehealth (HT) Program was introduced in 2007. It has grown in the past 5 years. HT is an important part of the Veterans care. HT can reduce unscheduled clinic visits. It can also decrease visits to the Emergency Room, and reduce hospital admissions.

The greatest benefit to the Veteran is personalized health care. Veterans send in their vital signs and questions every day with a home telehealth monitor. The results are reviewed by their HT Case Manager. If there is a change, the provider is informed. The HT Case Manager educates the Veteran about their disease. They also teach the signs and symptoms they need to report.

One example of HT success involves a Veteran with very high blood sugars and high Hemoglobin A1c. The Veteran wanted to try to control his diabetes without having to use insulin. The HT Case Manager monitored the daily telehealth results, and helped the Veteran with diet, exercise, medication management, and education. The result was that the Veteran reduced his Hemoglobin A1c from 10.2 to 5.3, and lost 40 pounds!

HT helps improve communication between the Veteran/Caregiver and their KCVA Health Care Team. Veterans are provided all the training needed to manage their disease process at home. Veterans are not charged for being in this program and all the equipment is free of charge.

The HT program ensures that Veterans at the KCVA are provided quality Patient Centered Care. The care is in the right place at the right time. If you think this program may be a benefit to you, talk to your provider. You may also call the HT office directly 816-861-4700 ext. 57529.

## Women Veterans Benefits Fair and Resource Expo

Kansas City VA Medical Center hosted its first Women Veteran Benefits Fair and Resource Expo on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Our goal was to reach out to women Veterans and provide information on benefits and resources they may not be aware of. Many community groups were at the expo. They provided job opportunities, legal advice, medical care for children and family, and information on so much more. All branches of the VA were present as well as other Veteran organizations. They were on hand to answer questions about benefits and the services they offer. We even had our own staff on site to share information about the areas they work in.

Approximately 150 women Veterans attended, along with their friends, spouses, and families. The event was held at our new Honor Annex. The Honor Annex is the future home of the KCVA women's clinic and is located at located at 4251 Northern Avenue in KCMO.

Staff at KCVA was grateful to have the chance to help women Veterans and share so much important information with them. Remember, she served too!

**Kansas City VA Medical Center**

816-861-4700

[www.kansascity.va.gov](http://www.kansascity.va.gov)

**Veterans Crisis Line**

1-800-273-8255



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