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News Release

For Immediate Release

Hundreds of Veterans Expected to Attend 2015 Welcome Home Event/Hiring Fair at Detroit VA Healthcare System

February 7th event pairs Veterans with employers and provides important resources for returning Veterans seeking health care, jobs

DETROIT – The Detroit VA will team with local and national agencies, along with employers to host hundreds of Veterans for a job fair and welcome home event next month.

The event will take place **Saturday, February 7, 2015, 8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.** at the Detroit VA Healthcare System, 4646 John R, Detroit.

Veterans of all eras are welcome to attend, although organizers continue their focus on Veterans who have recently returned from serving. “Returning combat Veterans consistently have issues with securing employment, which is a key focus of our OEF/OIF/OND program here at the medical center,” said Dr. Melva Coleman, Chief of Social Work and coordinator of the OEF/OIF/OND Program at the Detroit VA Healthcare System. “This event will allow Veterans to visit with employers, interview on-site, register for health care and receive medical exams. In addition, we will conduct workshops on everything from resume writing to dressing for an interview.”

“Employers continue to register for the event, which makes us keenly aware of their willingness to hire Veterans based on their skills and dedication,” said Dr. Coleman. “So many employers, both local and national, have Veteran-focused hiring programs and it’s our intent to make sure area Veterans are dialed into these programs so they can get those jobs that are out there.

Companies including Ford, Bank of America, DTE and General Motors will all participate in the upcoming program. Many employers will conduct on-site interviews. All Veterans planning to attend should register here: <http://www.hiringourheroes.org/>.

Along with the Detroit VA Healthcare System and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the event is sponsored by University of Phoenix and Livingston International.

“This is a collaborative effort between the VA and our community partners,” said Dr. Coleman. “Not only is it important for us to assist Veterans in understanding their benefits when it comes to health care, but we also want to help them realize what is available to them as far as jobs. So often, these highly qualified individuals leave the military and it’s a challenge for them to apply their incredible skills in the civilian world. That’s where we can help.”

Since 1939, the Detroit VA Healthcare System has been improving the health of the men and women who have so proudly served our nation. In 1996, the medical center moved from Allen Park, Michigan to the current location on John R. in Detroit. One of the newer VA facilities in the country, we consider it our privilege to serve the health care needs of our Veterans. Services are available to more than 330,000 Veterans living in Wayne, Oakland, Macomb, and St. Clair counties. This population represents approximately forty-four percent of the Veteran population in the lower peninsula of Michigan. For more information, visit <http://www.detroit.va.gov>.

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