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News Release

Detroit VA Healthcare System to Host, “Summer of Service Open House”, July 16, 2015

*Medical center to join others around the country in new program
to recruit volunteers and promote VA health care.*

For Immediate Release

Detroit, MI, (June 17, 2015) - A new nationwide VA initiative – “Summer of Service” – seeks the help of Detroit- area residents to create and build partnerships and grow the number of individuals and organizations serving Veterans in the area.

The Detroit VA will participate in the program by inviting the community to visit and explore health care and volunteer opportunities in an open house at the medical center on **Thursday, July 16, 2015, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in Room B1290.**

“There are several goals in holding this event,” said Dr. Pamela Reeves, Director of the Detroit VA. “We want to share information with Veterans and their families on how to register for care, what we can offer them in terms of programs and services, and how those in the community can get involved with our medical center on a volunteer basis. An open house where we can go into detail on what we offer is the perfect forum.”

On a national level, VA has also established the following goals to achieve by Labor Day:

- **Increasing Volunteering:** VA has an outstanding volunteer program, and we’re going to highlight it all over the country this summer, committing to engaging with 100,000 volunteers by the end of August. Community members are encouraged to look to <http://www.volunteer.va.gov/> to help meet VA’s volunteer goals.
- **Recruitment:** VA is a great place to work, with one of the best missions, serving the best clients - Veterans. We’re actively recruiting for health care providers, claims specialists, medical support assistants and cemetery directors. For more information, those interested can visit <http://mycareeratva.va.gov/> or <http://www.usajobs.gov>.
- **Congressional Engagement:** VA is expanding services to better serve Veterans this year, thanks to help from Congress. Congressional members and their staffs are invited to attend these open

houses around the country so they can learn more about the services we provide to our heroes every day.

- Enhancing Community Partnerships: VA is committed to expanding current agreements to provide services and support reaching more than 15,000 Veterans and family.

“We have made progress over the past year addressing the challenges we face in delivering care and benefits to millions of veterans and their families,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert A. McDonald. “While there is more work to do to honor our commitment to veterans, we also recognize that VA cannot do it alone. We are asking Americans everywhere to join the Summer of Service and help us give back to those who have given so much to our nation.”

More information on VA’s Summer of Service is available at <http://www.va.gov/vasummerofservice/>.

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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