



VA BUTLER HEALTHCARE  
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## News Release

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### For Immediate Release

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## VETERANS RECEIVE NEW APPROACH TO HEALTH CARE

**(BUTLER, PENNSYLVANIA)** – VA Butler Healthcare is adopting a new way in providing Veteran-centered services call the “Medical Home” model. This national Veteran-centered approach is changing the focus to a more whole-health focus on the Veteran through a coordinate team approach.

“Our Veterans are living longer,” said Sharon Parson, VA Butler Healthcare’s Nurse Executive. “They require an enhanced level of coordinated of care. We need to add more preventative-health and develop more efficient processes. Providing more holistic instead of episodic care will also allow Veterans to participate more in their care decisions.”

The Medial Home model is a patient-driven team approach that focuses on medical care that is more accessible, continuous, comprehensive, coordinated and compassionate. Veteran care will continue with traditional face-to-face encounters but also include non-face encounters with new process and technological advances.

“Butler was already ahead of the game,” said Parson. “We already had the team structure in place for Veteran-centered care. We just have to do some minor restructuring. The Department of Veteran affairs plans on being up and running 100 percent in two years. VA Butler will be quicker than that.”

Some of the changes that are expected are secure online communications with physicians, more preventative health programs, health education, and proactive health care where the VA reaches out more to veterans before there is a serious episodic treatment needed.

“We have hired more staff already as we shift to our new Medical Home model,” said Parson. VA Butler Healthcare is also contracting for a new state-of-the-art Health Care Center that will be specifically designed with Veteran-centered care in mind.

“VA Butler Healthcare has always provided excellent care for our Veterans,” said Parson. “The Medical Home model is a significant opportunity to meet the changing needs of our Veterans now and in the future.”

*VA Butler Healthcare, located on a scenic wooded 88-acre campus in the heart of Butler County, Pennsylvania, is the provider of choice for over 17,000 Veterans throughout Western Pennsylvania and parts of Ohio. VA Butler, a member of VA Healthcare-VISN 4, provides primary care, specialty care, mental health and social support services to Veterans at its main campus and serves a rural Veteran population through community based outpatient clinics (CBOCs) in Armstrong County, southern Butler County (Cranberry Township), Clarion County, Lawrence County, and Mercer County. VA Butler Healthcare has over 600 employees and volunteers dedicated to meeting the diverse needs of America’s heroes, now and in the future. For more information about VA Butler Healthcare, and links to special programs and initiatives, interested persons can log onto <http://www.butler.va.gov>. Media queries and requests should be directed to David Virag at (724)-285-2576 or [David.Virag@va.gov](mailto:David.Virag@va.gov).*

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