



NATIONAL
RURAL HEALTH
RESOURCE CENTER

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A Call to Duty: Transforming Veteran's End-of-Life Care

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Purpose

The National Rural Health Resource Center is a nonprofit organization dedicated to sustaining and improving health care in rural communities. As the nation's leading technical assistance and knowledge center in rural health, The Center focuses on five core areas:

- Performance Improvement
- Health Information Technology
- Recruitment & Retention
- Community Health Assessments
- Networking



Objectives

- Discover the value in meeting the unique end-of-life care needs of rural Veterans
- Identify effective methods of partnering with the VA for hospice and palliative care services
- Learn how a critical access hospital is rallying their community around the health care needs of rural Veterans



Veterans End-Of-Life Care

New recognition of the unique needs of Veterans

- 25% of all deaths in US are Veterans
- < 4% of Veteran deaths are in VA facilities
- ~ 33% of Veterans are enrolled in VA





Veterans Unique Hospice Needs

These needs are influenced by:

- Entry status: enlisted or drafted
- Branch of service and rank
- Combat or non-combat experience
- Type of war or time served
- POW experience
- PTSD experience

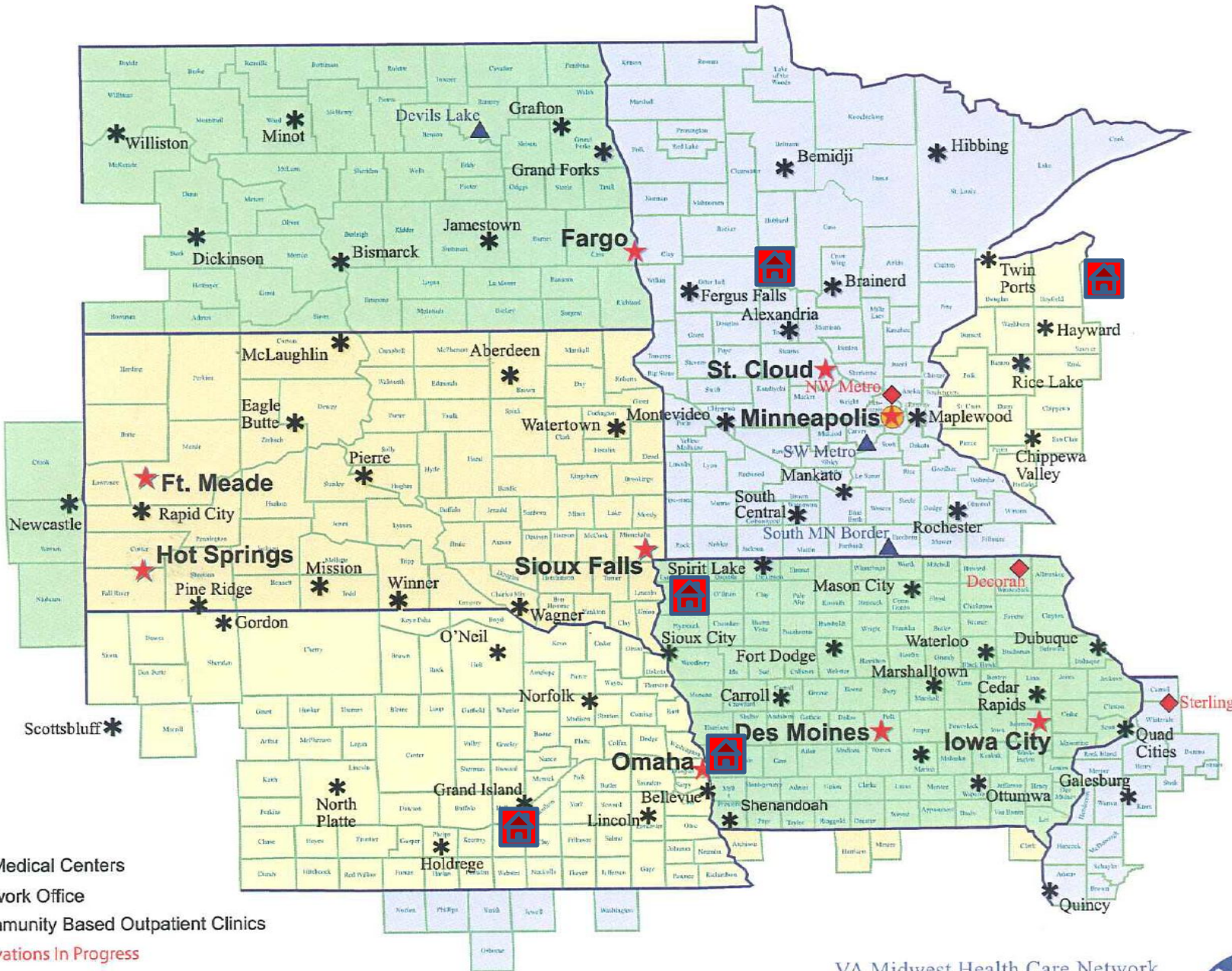




Palliative Care Rural Initiative (PCRI)

- Developed to bridge communication & coordination of hospice services for rural Veterans
- Partnered with Atlas Research to evaluate hospice reimbursement strategies
- Administered community hospice survey to determine awareness of Veterans end-of-life care needs
- Selected 5 community hospice locations to address care coordination models for rural Veterans

Location of Palliative Care Rural Care Hubs in Vision 2020



- ★ VA Medical Centers
- 🏠 Network Office
- ✳️ Community Based Outpatient Clinics
- ◆ Activations In Progress
- ▲ Planned Activations

VA Midwest Health Care Network





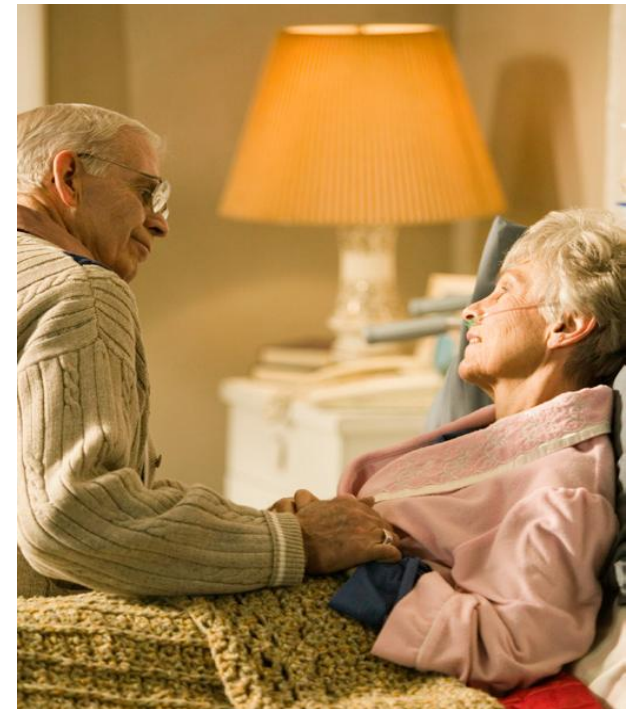
Facility Tips for Serving Veterans End-Of-Life Needs

- Join We Honor Veterans campaign
www.wehonorvets.org
- Participate in MN Hospice Veteran Partnership
- Connect Veteran with a County Veteran Service Officer: primary point of contact for Veterans benefits www.macvso.org or connect with VA representative www.va.vba.gov



Provider Tips for Serving Veterans End-of-Life Needs

- Administer Military History Checklist upon intake
[http://www.wehonorveterans.org/files/public/Veterans Military History Checklist.pdf](http://www.wehonorveterans.org/files/public/Veterans_Military_History_Checklist.pdf)
- Provide respectful inquiry, compassionate listening, and grateful acknowledgement





Resources

Resource	Website
We Honor Veterans campaign Military History Checklist Educational materials Outreach resources	www.WeHonorVeterans.org Email: Veterans@nhpco.org
Department of Veterans Affairs Veteran data Veterans Health Administration locations Veterans' Benefits National Cemetery Administration National Center for PTSD	www.va.gov www.va.gov/vetdata www.va.gov/directory/guide www.vba.va.gov www.cem.va.gov www.ptsd.va.gov



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