



Salem VA
Medical Center

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Salem VA Medical Center Opens Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Staunton, Va.

SALEM – Enhancing access to health care by locating outpatient clinics close to where Veterans reside is a key goal for the Department of Veterans Affairs. In keeping with that priority, the VA Mid-Atlantic Health Care Network (VISN 6) and Salem VA Medical Center (VAMC) are pleased to announce the opening of a Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) in Staunton, Virginia. The official ribbon-cutting will be held on Friday, October 21, 2011 at 10:00 a.m.

The Staunton CBOC became operational on September 26, 2011 and will provide services to an estimated 16,000 Veterans in Staunton, Waynesboro, Lexington, Clifton Forge, Covington and Augusta, Rockbridge, and Highland Counties. The clinic anticipates providing care to approximately 3,000 Veterans with over 13,800 visits within the first year of operation.

The clinic is located at 102 Business Way in Staunton, Virginia. VA is leasing space within a building constructed on the property. The facility provides 7,500 net usable square feet of clinic space with 20 examination and treatment rooms.

Services provided include comprehensive primary care, management of acute and chronic diseases, mental health services, women's health, behavioral health services, health promotion, maintenance, and education. Management and staffing of the Staunton CBOC will be under the direction of Dr. Thomas Eldridge, Chief, Primary Care Service Line and Dr. Del Short, Chief, Mental Health at the Salem VAMC. The VA staff of 22 will include physicians, nurses, a psychologist, social workers, pharmacist, health technicians, and administrative staff. Referrals for specialty care to Salem VAMC or to other VA sites will continue as appropriate for veterans seen initially at the Staunton Clinic.

Veterans currently enrolled at the Salem VAMC who live in close proximity to the Staunton clinic will be given priority for care there. Salem VAMC is contacting those Veterans who have requested transfer to the new site and those currently enrolled who may benefit from receiving their Primary Care at the new clinic. Enrolled Veterans may schedule an appointment at the new clinic by calling 1-540-886-5777.

Veterans not currently enrolled or receiving care from VA may inquire about eligibility and enrollment by calling the Health Benefits Center at (540) 982-2463, Ext 1662/2814 or toll-free at 1-888-982-2463, Ext. 1662/2814. The benefits center is open Monday – Friday between the hours of 7:45 am – 4:30 pm. Information may also be found by visiting our website at: www.salem.va.gov.

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