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**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

News Release

For Immediate Release
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Bronx Dietician Selected to Key Post with American Dietetic Association

Bronx, NY - James J. Peters VA Medical Center Dietician, Lisa Garback, MS, RD, CDN, was recently selected as Chair-Elect for the American Dietetic Association's (ADA) Dietetic Practice Group, Dietetics in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (DPM&R). Ms. Garback has worked at the Medical Center for the past 5 years as the Spinal Cord Injury Clinical Dietitian. She earned her Bachelors in Nutritional Sciences from Cornell University in 2001 and her Masters from New York University in Clinical Nutrition in 2003.

As Chair-Elect of DPM&R, Ms. Garback was among the national leaders of the ADA who were selected to attend the ADA's fifth Leadership Institute, held in late June in Henderson, Nevada.

Participation in ADA's Leadership Institute, an intensive certificate training program in the theory and practice of leadership dietetics, is limited to fewer than 300 of ADA's more than 68,000 members throughout the country.

"The program is designed to enhance the leadership skills of ADA members through informational sessions and practice-based educational experiences," said registered dietitian and ADA President Martin M. Yadrack.

The Leadership Institute is part of the ADA's mission to empower members to be the nation's food and nutrition leaders. This meeting supports ADA's commitment to its members and ensures that they develop the skills that can help them to lead within the ADA as well as at their own places of employment.

"The program was just incredible," stated an enthusiastic Garback, "We had the pleasure of learning from some of the best leadership coaches in the country and to network with the top leaders in the ADA. I felt truly empowered and inspired and I look forward to applying what I learned to my work here at the VA."

With more than 68,000 members, the ADA is the world's largest organization of food and nutrition professionals. ADA is committed to improving the nation's health and advancing the profession of dietetics through research, education and advocacy.

For more information related to this event or the James J. Peters VA Medical Center, please contact James E. Connell, III, Director of Community and Government Relations, at 718-584-9000 x6620, or via email to jim.connell@va.gov.

