



**Department of
Veterans Affairs**

NY Harbor Healthcare System
Public Affairs Office

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Fact Sheet

St. Albans Primary and Extended Care Center

The Veterans Administration received the St Albans Extended Care Center; now know as the VA St Albans Primary and Extended Care Center, from the U.S. Navy on March 14, 1974. The Naval Hospital was built by the Department of Defense on grounds previously occupied by the St. Albans Golf Club and Community Center. When constructed in 1950, the 3000 bed Naval Hospital comprised a vast network of 76 hospital wards connected by a corridor slightly over a mile long. The first veteran resident was admitted on April 29, 1974. By June 1974, 63 nursing care beds were occupied and outpatient care services were offered.

The St. Albans Primary and Extended Care Center serves the metropolitan area with specialized geriatric care. The Center's services include extended care rehabilitation, psycho-geriatric care, general nursing home care and domiciliary, providing psychosocial and independent living skills rehabilitation. Outpatient services have been offered at St. Albans for over 20 years. In Fiscal year 2006, the average daily census (ADC) for the domiciliary program was 41.2 patients or 82.4% of capacity which is 50 beds. For the nursing home, the ADC was 163.7 patients or 91% of capacity which is 180 beds. Outpatient visits (OPV) for the fiscal year 2006 was 45, 931 which has been relatively steady over the past several fiscal years.

Overall VA New York Harbor HCS consists of two tertiary care medical centers located in Manhattan and Brooklyn and a primary and extended care center located in St. Albans, Queens. VA New York Harbor HCS also operates three community based clinics situated in Harlem, downtown Brooklyn and Staten Island serving New York, Kings, Queens and Richmond Counties. VA New York Harbor HCS is a part of VA Network 3, which includes facilities in Bronx, Castle Point, Montrose, Northport, New York and East Orange and Lyons, New Jersey.

For the Saint Albans Site, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, R. James Nicholson, decided to replace the existing facilities with new, nursing home, domiciliary and outpatient facilities. The Secretary accepted the Local Advisory Panel's recommendations to maintain access from Linden Boulevard. The Secretary was also sensitive to the community's concerns regarding new construction, building height and the need to reuse land in a manner consistent with veteran and community needs. The Secretary decided to continue the Local Advisory Panel process for two additional meetings to seek community input as VA prepares plans for modernization and reuse of the property. The third public meeting was held on October 19, 2006 and a fourth and final public meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2007.

The mission of the VA NY Harbor HCS is dedicated to providing quality health care to veterans using the abilities of all employees, supported by our commitment to education and research. Our Vision is to seek to be the provider of choice of veterans and the community by offering an efficient, integrated quality health care system capable of providing a full range of primary, specialty and chronic health care services in a system that is readily accessible and responsive to change.