

**White City VA Medical Center
Local Advisory Panel Public Meeting
May 10, 2005
Theater Building**

Start Time: 1:00 PM

Opening Remarks and Introductions

- Participants:
 - LAP members present: Les Burger, MD, FACP, Chair, Director VISN 20; Hank Collins, Jackson County HHS Director; Donna Markle, Associate Professor OHSU School of Nursing; Marty Kimmel, Jackson County Veterans Service Officer; Andrew Mebane, MD, Chief of Staff SORCC
 - Absent: Madeline Winfrey
 - PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC) Consultants: Scott Burns, Adrienne Setters, Johanna Valladeres
 - Perkins and Will: Russell Triplett, Richard Dachman
 - Other VA Participants: Susan Pendergrass, VHA Director, Office Strategic Initiatives; AJ Allen, Network Planner, VISN Support Team Lead; Carol Bogedain, Quality Manager White City VA Medical Center
 - Public/Stakeholders

- Welcome: Les Burger, Chair, thanked everyone involved and provided introductions of LAP members

- Pledge of Allegiance: Jerry Heckers

- Overview of Meeting Agenda Purpose of Business Studies, Local Advisory Panel (LAP) Process: Les Burger, Chair
 - Overview of meeting agenda
 - Overview of CARES process and Secretary's Decision
 - Public comments
 - Written and oral testimony can be submitted
 - All remarks should be confined to three minutes and will be monitored by a timekeeping 'stoplight'
 - Public questions from presentations should be reserved for public comment portion
 - Report out on administrative meeting proceedings
 - Review of LAP Standard Operating Procedure
 - No decisions were discussed regarding plans for White City during the administrative meeting; the meeting was held for the purpose of logistical issues, and to establish roles and responsibilities
 - Notes from both meetings will be published on the VA website
 - Solicit public input both verbally and through written testimony

- Overview of CARES Background/History: (Les Burger- LAP Chair)
 - History and background information presented
 - Review of Secretary's 2004 Decision

- Overview of Demand Forecast Methodology and Review of Forecasted Demand Data:
(AJ Allen, Carol Bogedain and Steve Broskey- VA)
 - Review of forecasting model
 - Five demand models: Inpatient/Outpatient, Nursing Home care, Domiciliary care, Spinal Cord Injury and Blind Rehab
 - 25 CARES Implementation Categories (CICs)
 - Looking at demand projections from the years 2003-2023
 - Background information presented on White City, VISN 20 and the South Cascade Market
 - Information presented on enrollment and demand forecasts for both outpatient and inpatient services
 - Reviewed the existing site plan

- Presentation PwC Methodology and Tools including Options Development Process:
(Scott Burns- PwC)
 - History and Background, Secretary's 2004 Decision & goal of study
 - Scope of study, study phases, timelines, PwC's role, organization chart
 - White City VAMC is not a healthcare study site. Will conduct capital planning and reuse studies.
 - Reviewed Business Plan Options (BPOs) and decision process & PwC's approach to developing BPOs.
 - Overview of the Option Development Process and Baseline Option
 - A number of credible options will be presented at the 2nd LAP meeting. That input will then be presented to the Secretary six options will be delivered.
 - Access, quality and cost are key components of PwC's analysis
 - Data is developed on a site by site basis and will be continually updated throughout Stage 1 and Stage 2
 - The public can provide feedback through two avenues:
 - CARES project website (open throughout the duration of project) input can be submitted through May 26th
 - Mailstop address

- **Questions from the LAP and Public related to presentations:**
No questions asked

Brief Description of Testimony / Public Statements (3minutes/speaker)

1. Testimony 1, Associate Dean Nursing, and the Director of Academic Programs, representing OHSU, School of Nursing (submitted written comments). Spoke to the strong role the VA has played in the education of nurses in the program. Nursing students provide 650 direct cares hours per year and the VA provides 100 hours per year. Nursing shortage and workforce demands increase the need for experience in rehab and chronic illness and to work as part of an interdisciplinary team. The VA program helps to increase retention and recruitment efforts, all initiatives through the CARES SORCC plan are in line with OHSU's need. Current models being implemented are innovative and provide students with invaluable exposure to the Oregon consortium also works for expanding collaboration for a site for expanding services. Look forward to ongoing collaboration in the future. The

- program typically provides nine students each quarter, 18 undergraduate and three graduate students currently at the White City VAMC
2. Testimony 2, Commander of the Local Chapter DAV, 651 active members, active member of the Purple Heart Organization, speaking for both organizations, discussed how members are the receivers of all the VAMC's efforts. He expressed personal experiences and gratitude for all that is provided from the medical center. Disabilities ranging from 30-100%, veterans have the understanding that they will be taken care of in terms of medical care, expect to be provided with quality healthcare, mention of some acute care and specialty care services that are not available at the White City VAMC, specifically Emergency Care. He would like to see the same complement of services that are offered in Portland at the White City VAMC. Veterans are instructed to go to nearest emergency room and the VA will follow-up. Expressed concerned with high costs involved with obtaining care from non-VA facilities.
 3. Testimony 3, provided written testimony regarding previous domiciliary patient dealing with a life threatening disease which prevented him from working. He was encouraged to continue his education and has been clean for 3 years, moved out of domiciliary, and is now a student with a 4.0 GPA. Worried that his journey may come to an end due to the scaling down of the voucher assistance program. He was once homeless and addicted to drugs and alcohol and he credits the VA for turning his life around.
 4. Testimony 4, student from Eagle Point high school and volunteer for the VAMC could not find work due to disability, but was accepted by the VA and able to gain valuable experience from the VA. Expressed gratitude for the programs offered to her
 5. Testimony 5, student at Eagle Point High School, part of the VA SORCC program, not a good student in high school and found a new world with many opportunities were opened up to her. She is training to be a nurse at the VA and expressed concern about changes to the VA facility
 6. Testimony 6, second year in nurse assistant program, she is pleased with the quality of care offered at the VA. She has learned a lot from the program and feels the program would help her to get into nursing school.
 7. Testimony 7, the Director of the Veteran Affairs Partnership with Eagle Point High School, School to Work Connection Program provided testimony as to which offers programs for a multitude of services and a state licensing program at the community college. Offers a CNA program in its 3rd year and is a source for pre-entry into the nursing program. VA SORCC and RCC, prepares students for real world duties and they are able to receive hands on experience that offer tools for application to nursing programs. LAP member asked about expansion for programs in the future and was told that phlebotomy and a dental clinic were possibilities. Students are at the facility an average of 2-6 hours. The program had 28 students this school year. Teaching and mentoring is provided by VA staff
 8. Testimony 8, mother of a veteran, recently returned home from Baghdad. She expressed concern for the veterans who are forced to travel to Portland for services such as colonoscopy and MRI. She is also concerned about the men returning from the current war and the readjustment into society. She would like the VA to consider bringing this equipment to White City

LAP Chair reminded everyone to make use of the contact information to provide additional comments.

Notes will be reviewed and published on the website within approximately the next two weeks

- Local Advisory Panel Deliberations
 - Motion to accept Standard Operating Procedures
 - Standard Operating Procedures accepted
 - Next meeting will follow the same logistical format as today's

Adjourn 2:55 PM