

# Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services

## CARES Background and Secretary's Decision 2004 for Perry Point, MD VAMC

Presentation to Local Advisory Panel



# CARES History and Background



- **A March 1999 GAO report concluded that if VHA restructured its capital assets it could significantly reduce the operating and maintenance costs of its facilities**
- **In response VHA initiated development of the Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services (CARES) Program**
- **The CARES process was piloted in VISN 12 (Chicago, Milwaukee, Madison and parts of Michigan) using a contractor to objectively assess health care needs and recommend optimal Service Delivery Options**

# CARES History and Background

## Cont'd



- **CARES Phase II extended the CARES Program to all 21 Networks within VHA**
- **Phase II relied primarily upon VA staff and resources to develop the Network CARES Market Plans**
- **The Undersecretary for Health used the Networks CARES Market Plans to prepare a Draft National CARES Plan (DNCP) with recommendations to the Secretary.**
- **After review by the Secretary, the final DNCP was submitted to the CARES Commission in August 2003.**

# CARES History and Background Cont'd



- **The Secretary appointed a National Commission of non-VA executives to review the DNCP to provide an objective and external perspective**
- **The Commission made recommendations to the Secretary to consider in his review of the draft National CARES Plan**
- **The final report of the CARES Commission was submitted in February 2004, and the Secretary announced his decision in May 2004**

# Secretary's May 2004 Decision Document for Perry Point VAMC



- **The Perry Point campus is situated on 364 acres of land, much of which is underused or vacant.**
- **While some buildings on the campus have been recently renovated, others are in dire need of repair, including the nursing home, which is almost 80 years old.**
- **While the mission of the Perry Point VAMC will remain unchanged, the Master Plan will propose an efficient, cost-effective, and appropriately sized design that will reduce vacant and underused space**

# Secretary's May 2004 Decision Document for Perry Point VAMC



**on the campus and include modernization of patient care buildings to meet current and anticipated needs.**

- **The plan will include construction of a replacement nursing home.**