



CONTACT: Heather Frantz
Public Affairs Specialist
PHONE: (412) 365-4778
E-MAIL: heather.frantz@va.gov

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE : Ronald Rabold Honored as Social Worker of the Year

PITTSBURGH – August 3, 2007 – Ronald Rabold, VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System Vice President of Community Based Care, was honored as Social Worker of the Year during the 2007 Under Secretary for Health Awards for Excellence in Social Work Leadership. As Social Worker of the Year Rabold exhibited exemplary service in the performance of his job, built links between individuals and groups in the organization, thought and acted innovatively, exceeded the needs of internal and external customers and demonstrated outstanding competency in his job. He was presented the award July 30, 2007 by the honorable Michael J. Kussman, Under Secretary for Health for the Veterans Health Administration, in Washington, D.C.



Rabold has been working for the VA for more than 33 years beginning as a clinical social worker for the VA in 1974 and says, "There is no higher honor than taking care of our Nation's heroes and heroes is what they are." He says that some of his proudest accomplishments have been being a mentor to students and staff and seeing them move on to success as well as assisting with the OIF/OEF initiative for smooth transition and continuing care of combat veterans.

At the core of Rabold's outstanding performance as a clinician and administrator are his exceptional interpersonal skills. He is both inspiring and uplifting in his daily interactions with veterans, their family members and members of their treatment team to assure the delivery of outstanding service individualized to each veteran.