

# Capital Asset Realignment for Enhanced Services

## Business Plan Studies for Brooklyn-Manhattan VAMCs

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 BK-MN VAMCs



- **VA will study the feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and impact of consolidating the Brooklyn and Manhattan VAMCs**
- **To assess the potential for consolidation, VA will develop a comprehensive study of the feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and impact of developing a modern, efficient, health care system in the New York area**

# Secretary's May 2004 Decision Document for BK-MN VAMCs



## Specific Considerations/Requirements –

- **The system to be studied would be anchored by a comprehensive tertiary care medical center located in either Manhattan or Brooklyn and will include plans for development of strategically located multi-specialty outpatient clinics and CBOCs targeted to support the tertiary hub, maximize access, and bring primary, mental health, and specialty care services closer to where veterans live**
- **The study will analyze the demand for nursing home care services**