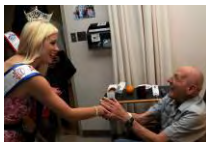


News & Events



VA San Diego Announces New Medical Center Director: The Department of Veterans Affairs is pleased to announce the appointment of Jeffrey T. Gering, FACHE, as the new Director of the VA San Diego Healthcare System. For more information, please visit [here](#).



National Salute to Veteran Patients Week 2012: VASDHS celebrated National Salute to Veteran Patients Week with visits from community groups and valentine cards for Veterans lining the hallways of the medical center. This annual event is part of a national VA celebration.



40th Anniversary Celebration Week: VASDHS celebrated the 40th Anniversary of the medical center with several events including an Employee Wellness Fair on March 12, Ice Cream Socials throughout the week at the medical center and clinics and a ceremony on March 15. Pictures can be found [here](#)

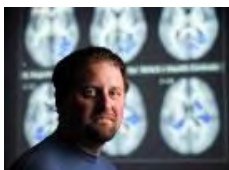


The Aspire Center: VA San Diego Healthcare System recently announced its plan to open a Veteran Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program (RRTP) in the Old Town community in 2012. More on this new facility, named the Aspire Center” [here](#).



2011 Annual Report: Presenting VA San Diego Healthcare System’s latest facts, figures and accomplishments in the [2011 VASDHS Annual Report](#), published on March 15, 2012.

Media Hits



Navy Seals Research: San Diego researcher, Alan Simmons published an article about Navy Seals enhanced brain function being key to coping in extreme conditions. [The San Diego Union Tribune](#) published a story (3/8/12), KGTV 10 and Fox News also covered the story.

40th Anniversary Celebration: Summary of events can be found above. Covered by the [San Diego Union Tribune](#) (3/19/12), KGTV10 (3/15/12), [KPBS radio](#) (3/15/12).

Documentary “Portrait of an American Nurse”: VASDHS nurses were interviewed on February 16 – 16 for a documentary entitled “Portrait of an American Nurse.” The producer wanted to interview nurses providing care to returning combat Veterans.

Accomplishments & Awards



Social Worker of the Year: VASDHS Social Worker, Debbie Dominick, MSW, was named Social Worker of the Year for San Diego and Imperial Counties.



VASDHS Wins Recycling Award: Practice Greenhealth awarded VASDHS with the Environmental Excellent Award, Partner for Change with Distinction Award. The City of San Diego Environment Services Department named VASDHS a winner in the Director’s Recycling Award, 2012 Waste Reduction and Recycling Awards Program.

Social Media



www.facebook.com/VASanDiego

Number of likes (Feb./March): 65

Total number of likes: 671



<https://twitter.com/#!/VASanDiego>

Number of followers (Feb./March): 73

Total number of likes: 786

MyHealtheVet



Local [MyHealtheVet](#) stats as of Mar. 23, 2012:

Total enrolled Veterans: 32,678

Total using secure messaging: 4,155 patients opted in

Upcoming Events

Volunteer Recognition Week: April 16-20.

VA Research Week: April 23-27; Presentations April 25 & 26.

Clothesline Project: The Clothesline Project will be displayed on April 23 and 24, 2012, in the Multipurpose Room at the San Diego VA Medical Center and April 25 and 26 in the Mission Valley clinic, 4th floor conference room, and Oceanside clinic’s front foyer on April 27.