

## News & Events



**National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic:** Over 110 disabled Veterans from around the country came to San Diego Sept. 16 – 21, for the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic. The week long [clinic](#) focused on learning and rehabilitation in five different venues across San Diego County.



**Donation for Veteran mothers:** Owen Mossy, Chairman of the Ford County Dealers Association, along with VA San Diego Healthcare System, presented over 20 expecting and recent mothers with car seats and strollers in a [ceremony](#) to honor Veteran mothers on Aug. 14. The gifts were part of a \$5,000 donation by Ford Motor Company Fund.



**Suicide prevention:** National Suicide Prevention week gave VASDHS the opportunity to address the issue of suicide and how we're responding to it. More can be found [here](#). Our suicide prevention team actively works with Veterans in San Diego and Imperial Counties.

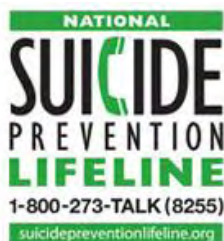


**Lean = better health care:** VASDHS staff recently completed a three day efficiency optimization workshop called the Lean Healthcare Greenbelt Program. Read more about our participation [here](#).



**USMA Superintendent visits VASDHS:** While in town for a football game, Lt. Gen. David Huntoon of the United States Military Academy stopped by San Diego VA Medical Center to [visit](#) with Army Veteran inpatients on Sept. 8. Veterans also got a show from the USMA band and cheerleaders.

## Media Hits



**Suicide prevention:** VASDHS local figures on suicide prevention attracted the attention of several local media outlets in Aug. and Sept. UT San Diego ran an article on the topic in their [website](#), television station, and newspaper. A story was also broadcast on [KPBS](#).



**Spinal cord research:** Using a cocktail of growth-inducing proteins, VA San Diego Drs. Paul Lu and Mark Tuszynski were able to restore some movement to animal subjects. The finding from this study was published in the journal *Cell* on Sept. 13, covered by the [North County Times](#) the same day and ran in the [UT San Diego](#) on Sept. 14.



**TBI research:** Dr. Amy Jak, Psychologist and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) researcher was interviewed by KNSD TV on September 5 regarding the potential impact of additional funding for TBI research from the announcement Sept. 5 that the NFL will donate \$30 million to the National Institute of Medicine for research on brain injury.



**National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic:** Local coverage for the clinic was featured in the [North County Times](#) , [Veterans Today](#) and [KPBS](#).

## Accomplishments & Awards



**VASDHS Patient goes for the gold:** At the 2012 Paralympic Games in London, VA patient and military Veteran Oscar Sanchez won the Gold Medal at the team relay cycling event. He also took home the Bronze Medal during the individual time trial event.



**VASDHS wins Planetree Award:** VA San Diego Healthcare System was honored with a [Spirit of Planetree Award](#) for its Warrior to Soul Mate Program at the 2012 Annual Planetree International Conference in Palm Desert, Calif. The [conference](#), from Sept. 30 – Oct. 3, featured medical facility tours, guest speakers on patient-centered care and a host of other informative event

## Upcoming Events



**Columbus Day:** Oct. 8  
**Celebration of Survivors & Wear Pink Day in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month:** Oct. 11  
**Halloween:** Oct. 31  
**Standard Time begins:** Nov. 4  
**Veteran's Day:** Nov. 11  
**Thanksgiving:** Nov. 22