



IOWA VETERANS HOME

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Thomas J. Vilsack, Governor
Sally J. Pederson, Lt. Governor
State of Iowa
Daniel R. Steen, Commandant

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

December 1, 2006

The Honorable Michael Marshall, Secretary of the Senate
The Honorable Margaret Thomson, Chief Clerk of the House
State Capitol Building
Des Moines, IA 50319

RE: ICN Annual Cost-Savings Report—FY '06

Dear Secretary Marshall and Chief Clerk Thomson:

Attached is the Iowa Veterans Home's Annual Cost-Savings Report on ICN usage for FY '06. The report is divided into two categories: Administrative and Telemedicine.

ADMINISTRATIVE

In addition to the 35 sessions listed in the report, IVH also approved 96 sessions of our three ICN classrooms for usage by State agencies, colleges, libraries, and other organizations. We are pleased to be able to provide this public service to citizens of Marshalltown and the surrounding communities.

The Veterans Home is very appreciative of the programs that the University of Iowa Geriatric Education Center presents via the ICN; e.g., Geriatric Grand Rounds Series. Our medical/clinical staff has taken advantage of these quality, low-cost sessions and has been able to obtain CME's and CEU's without leaving the facility.

An IVH work group is in the process of being formed to investigate the feasibility of increasing our ICN usage in future fiscal years.

TELEMEDICINE

The inconvenience and length of traditional travel time to Veterans Affairs Medical Centers and University Hospitals greatly influences the willingness of IVH residents to participate in telemedicine appointments. The majority of IVH residents continue to express a high level of satisfaction with their telemedicine appointments, and most prefer their follow-up appointments to be conducted through this medium.

A clinical work group continues to be involved in attempts to increase telemedicine appointments for our residents. Our overall usage of telemedicine has significantly decreased over the past several years (we have a negative cost savings this fiscal year, the second year in a row).

This decrease is due to several factors:

- Because of budget constraints, the VA did not renew their contract with the urologist who conducted the Urology Clinics
- Availability of physicians for a variety of other clinics
- Scheduling
- Coordination.

As stated above, a group of IVH administrative staff is working with the Veterans Affairs Medical Center representatives in an effort to stimulate increased telemedicine utilization for IVH residents and to re-establish clinical lines of assessment.

IVH is involved in a collaborative effort with the VAMC in Knoxville and CIHCS in Des Moines in conducting outpatient psychiatric appointments for veterans not living at IVH. Twelve appointments were held in FY '06. The appointments (noted in column #3 of the attached report) are routine follow-ups for veterans living outside IVH and traveling from surrounding communities. There is no cost savings to IVH associated with these outpatient appointments. The clinics are coordinated through VA Knoxville and conducted with staff at the Des Moines VA facility. IVH provides skilled registered nursing staff to assist in the prescreening and assessment of veterans, while Knoxville reimburses us for our nursing staff's labor cost. The majority of veterans have commented positively on their appointment experiences.

ASSUMPTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE PORTION OF SPREADSHEET

DATE	Date session held
NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS	Number of IVH employees who attended
SESSION LENGTH	Number of hours
VIDEO COST	ICN hourly video fees and dialable wide band usage, if applicable. (The majority of sessions we attend are sponsored and paid by other entities.)
PER DIEM COSTS	Meals
TRAVEL TIME SALARY SAVINGS	2.5 round trip hours to Des Moines x actual participants' hourly wage (including 35% benefits); or 4.0 round trip hours to Iowa City.
MILEAGE SAVED	100-mile round trip to Des Moines, 4-7 staff per vehicle; or 180-mile round trip to Iowa City.
STATE CAR SAVINGS	Miles x .35 per mile for State vehicle use.
TOTAL SAVINGS	Add all savings and deduct video costs.

If you have any questions concerning this report, please contact me at 641-753-4309.

Sincerely



Daniel R. Steen
 Commandant
 Iowa Veterans Home

DS:cj
 attachment

cc: Tami Fujinaka, Iowa Communications Network
 Jennifer Acton, Legislative Services Agency
 Stan Freeborn, Iowa Veterans Home
 Kelli Buresh, Iowa Veterans Home
 Marie Robertson, Iowa Veterans Home
 Wayne Pierson, Iowa Veterans Home
 Cherie Jones, Iowa Veterans Home
 Bill Curler, Iowa Veterans Home
 Victor Hubert, Iowa Veterans Home
 Diana Steiner, Iowa Veterans Home
 Greg Wright, Iowa Veterans Home

ICN ANNUAL COST SAVINGS REPORT -- FY 2006 -- IOWA VETERANS HOME

DATE	SESSION LENGTH (HOURS)	PARTICIPANTS	VIDEO COST	PER DIEM SAVINGS	TRAVEL TIME SALARY SVGS	MILEAGE SAVED (#OF MILES)	STATE CAR SAVINGS	TOTAL SVGS
07/20/05	1	3	\$ 40.90	\$ 18.00	\$ 537.25	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 577.35
07/22/05	3	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 156.47	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 197.47
08/08/05	2	3		\$ 18.00	\$ 263.52	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 316.52
08/09/05	1.5	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 164.67	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 205.67
08/17/05	1	6	\$ 40.90	\$ 36.00	\$ 960.01	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 1,018.11
09/12/05	2.75	2		\$ 12.00	\$ 250.22	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 297.22
09/12/05	2.75	1		\$ -	\$ 156.47	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 191.47
09/16/05	3	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 156.47	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 197.47
09/19/05	1	1		\$ -	\$ 70.67	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 105.67
09/21/05	1	11	\$ 40.90	\$ 66.00	\$ 1,778.49	360	\$ 126.00	\$ 1,929.59
09/21/05	1	1		\$ -	\$ 70.67	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 105.67
10/13/05	1	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 164.67	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 205.67
10/18/05	2	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 124.52	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 193.52
10/19/05	1	3	\$ 40.90	\$ 18.00	\$ 412.34	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 452.44
11/07/05	3	3		\$ 18.00	\$ 243.07	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 296.07
11/10/05	3	3		\$ 18.00	\$ 243.07	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 296.07
11/16/05	1	6	\$ 40.90	\$ 36.00	\$ 1,024.76	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 1,082.86
11/18/05	3	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 156.47	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 197.47
01/09/06	1	1		\$ -	\$ 70.67	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 105.67
01/12/06	1	1		\$ -	\$ 70.67	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 105.67
01/18/06	1	13	\$ 40.90	\$ 78.00	\$ 1,811.97	360	\$ 126.00	\$ 1,975.07
01/19/06	2	5		\$ 30.00	\$ 362.88	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 427.88
01/19/06	1	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 164.67	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 205.67
01/20/06	2	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 156.47	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 197.47
02/14/06	2	19		\$ 114.00	\$ 2,616.25	540	\$ 189.00	\$ 2,919.25
02/15/06	1	9	\$ 40.90	\$ 54.00	\$ 1,891.62	360	\$ 126.00	\$ 2,030.72
03/15/06	1	11	\$ 40.90	\$ 66.00	\$ 2,189.81	360	\$ 126.00	\$ 2,340.91
03/17/06	3	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 156.47	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 197.47
04/19/06	1	18	\$ 40.90	\$ 108.00	\$ 3,434.45	540	\$ 189.00	\$ 3,690.55
04/20/06	1	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 70.67	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 111.67
05/16/06	1	2		\$ 12.00	\$ 179.25	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 226.25
05/17/06	1	2	\$ 40.90	\$ 12.00	\$ 412.29	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 446.39
05/19/06	3	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 156.47	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 197.47
06/21/06	1	2	\$ 40.90	\$ 12.00	\$ 305.05	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 339.15
06/21/06	3	5		\$ 30.00	\$ 362.88	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 427.88
TOTALS		60	\$ 449.90	\$ 822.00	\$ 21,346.35	5980	\$ 2,093.00	\$ 23,811.45

TELEMEDICINE COST SAVINGS -- FY 06

VA Outpatient Appointments	IVH Resident Appnts	TOTAL APPTS	Trip Cost Svgs/ IVH Appnts. (\$211.68/appnt)	Less ICN Circuit/Video Costs	Plus Outpatient Reimbsmt from VA K'ville	Total Telemed Savings
12	4	16	\$846.72	\$2,082.71	\$452.81	(\$783.18)

Total Telemedicine & ICN Cost Savings -- FY 06

\$23,028.27