



IOWA VETERANS HOME

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

November 17, 2005

RECEIVED

NOV 22 2005

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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 Cost-Savings Report—FY '05

Dear Secretary Marshall and Chief Clerk Thomson:

Attached is the Iowa Veterans Home's Annual Cost-Savings Report on ICN usage for FY '05. The report is divided into two categories: Administrative and Telemedicine

ADMINISTRATIVE

In addition to the 41 sessions listed in the report, IVH also approved 56 sessions for usage by other State agencies, colleges, libraries, etc. of our three ICN classrooms. 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 presents via the ICN, Cyber-Pros, Geriatric Grand Rounds. This fiscal year U of I also presented a seven-session Mental Health Series. Our medical/clinical staff has taken advantage of these quality offerings throughout, and has been able to obtain CME's and CEU's without leaving the facility.

A work group has been formed to investigate the feasibility of increasing our ICN usage in future fiscal years.

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TELEMEDICINE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The inconvenience and length of traditional travel time to Veterans Affairs Medical Centers and University Hospitals greatly influences the willingness of 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 that their follow-up appointments would be conducted through this medium.

A work group has been formed with its main initiative 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). This decrease is due to several factors:

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

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

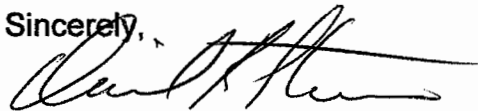
IVH is involved in a collaborative effort with the VAMC in Knoxville and CIHCS in Des Moines in conducting outpatient psychiatric appointments for veterans not living at IVH. Nineteen appointments were held in FY '05. The appointments (noted in column #3 of the attached report) are routine follow-ups 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 the veterans; Knoxville reimburses us for our nursing staff's labor cost. The majority of veterans have provided positive comments about their appointments.

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, e.g., University of Iowa)
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 Steen
Commandant

DS:cj
attachment

cc: Tami Fujinaka, Iowa Communications Network
Jennifer Acton, Legislative Services Agency
Sue Lerdal, 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

Iowa Veterans Home -- ICN Cost Savings Report -- Fiscal Year 2005

DATE	SESSION LENGTH (HOURS)	PARTICIPANTS	VIDEO COST	PER DIEM SAVINGS	TRAVEL TIME SALARY SVGS	MILEAGE SAVED (#OF MILES)	STATE CAR SAVINGS	TOTAL SVGS
07/12/04	0.75	1			\$ 67.60	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 102.60
07/15/04	1	1			\$ 67.60	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 102.60
07/21/04	1	5		\$ 30.00	\$ 1,099.06	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 1,192.06
07/22/04	1	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 140.00	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 181.00
08/13/04	1.5	10		\$ 30.00	\$ 496.19	200	\$ 70.00	\$ 596.19
08/18/04	1	14		\$ 84.00	\$ 2,441.97	540	\$ 189.00	\$ 2,714.97
08/26/04	1.5	7		\$ 42.00	\$ 1,112.97	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 1,217.97
09/02/04	1.5	8		\$ 48.00	\$ 1,558.67	360	\$ 126.00	\$ 1,732.67
09/07/04	1.5	9			\$ 1,302.21	360	\$ 126.00	\$ 1,428.21
09/09/04	1	6		\$ 36.00	\$ 861.95	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 960.95
09/15/04	1	5		\$ 30.00	\$ 1,139.83	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 1,232.83
09/16/04	1.5	5		\$ 30.00	\$ 860.81	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 953.81
09/23/04	1.5	5		\$ 30.00	\$ 828.36	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 921.36
09/30/04	1.5	14		\$ 84.00	\$ 2,003.21	540	\$ 189.00	\$ 2,276.21
10/07/04	1.5	5		\$ 30.00	\$ 761.24	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 854.24
10/14/04	1.5	4		\$ 24.00	\$ 607.66	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 694.66
10/18/04	0.75	1			\$ 67.60	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 102.60
10/20/04	1	2		\$ 6.00	\$ 739.53	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 808.53
10/21/04	1.5	1			\$ 67.60	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 102.60
11/04/04	1.5	2		\$ 12.00	\$ 330.64	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 405.64
11/17/04	1	9		\$ 54.00	\$ 1,703.54	360	\$ 126.00	\$ 1,883.54
11/19/04	2.25	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 94.40	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 135.40
12/15/04	1	6		\$ 48.00	\$ 1,092.43	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 1,203.43
01/13/05	0.75	1			\$ 67.60	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 102.60
01/19/05	1	6	\$ 40.91	\$ 36.00	\$ 2,110.75	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 2,168.84
01/20/05	1.5	1			\$ 67.60	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 102.60
01/20/05	1.75	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 140.00	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 181.00
01/21/05	2.25	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 94.40	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 135.40
02/16/05	1	2	\$ 40.91	\$ 12.00	\$ 729.16	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 763.25
02/18/05	2.25	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 94.40	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 135.40
03/11/05	2.25	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 94.40	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 135.40
03/16/05	1	4	\$ 40.91	\$ 6.00	\$ 715.28	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 743.37

Iowa Veterans Home -- ICN Cost Savings Report -- Fiscal Year 2005

DATE	SESSION LENGTH (HOURS)	PARTICIPANTS	VIDEO COST	PER DIEM SAVINGS	TRAVEL TIME SALARY SVGS	MILEAGE SAVED (#OF MILES)	STATE CAR SAVINGS	TOTAL SVGS
03/18/05	1	1		\$ 6.00	\$ 94.40	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 135.40
04/14/05	1	4			\$ 356.27	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 391.27
05/24/05	1	3			\$ 415.46	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 450.46
05/25/05	1	9			\$ 634.91	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 669.91
05/26/05	1	5			\$ 314.01	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 349.01
05/27/05	1	4			\$ 276.04	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 311.04
06/16/05	1	3			\$ 434.27	180	\$ 63.00	\$ 497.27
06/23/05	1	3			\$ 209.35	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 244.35
06/28/05	1.5	2			\$ 159.33	100	\$ 35.00	\$ 194.33
TOTALS	52.5	174	\$ 122.73	\$ 714.00	\$ 26,452.70		\$ 2,471.00	\$ 29,514.97
TELEMEDICINE COST SAVINGS -- FY 05								
					Trip Cost Svgs/	Less	Plus	Total
	VA Outpatient Appointments	IVH Resident Appts	TOTAL APPTS	IVH Appts. (\$211.68/appt)	ICN Circuit/Video Cost	Outpatient Reimbsmt from VA K'ville	Telemed Savings	
	19	7	26	\$ 1,481.76	\$ 2,137.95	\$ 302.33	\$ (353.86)	
Total Telemedicine & ICN Cost Savings -- FY 05								
								\$ 29,161.11