



IOWA VETERANS HOME

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The Iowa Veterans Home, serving veterans now and in the future

Founded in 1887 to address the needs of Iowa's Civil War veterans, the Iowa Veterans Home has always sought to meet the motto, "Iowa Forgets Not the Defenders of the Union." The Iowa Veterans Home is seeking to build on its proud tradition of care for veterans to meet the needs of future veterans.

We currently provide a very high level of healthcare to 725 of Iowa's veterans/spouses/widows. Both the Iowa Department of Inspections and Appeals and the U.S. Department of Veterans Administration rate our services highly when doing annual inspections at our facility.

Our vision at IVH is to move from an institution to a home for those we serve. We are all very familiar with the traditional nursing home, long corridors, and sterile looking furnishings and rooms. Such a facility is a very efficient way to provide healthcare, but not how most of us would choose to live out our lives.

My vision for the Iowa Veterans Home will move us from an institution to a home in the very best sense of the word. We are working with an architectural firm to create a Master Plan to help guide us in this effort. Our Master Planning group includes not only this architectural firm but residents, their family members, staff, local community leaders, members of veterans' organizations, legislators, and regulatory agency staff. We want all of our stakeholders and especially Iowa's veterans to help determine what services are needed now and what services will be needed in the future.

I would like our vision to be focused on "Resident-Centered Care," where the veterans' input guides the services we provide to meet their needs and wishes. Each resident will help determine when they want to get up in the morning, when they want to eat, when they want to bathe and the activities they want to participate in each day. We need to recognize how they lived their lives before coming to IVH and respect their wishes as we remember and honor them as the "Defenders of the Union!"

How can you help us?

1. IVH has generated additional revenues in FY07, so we would like you to change our carry forward language in statute as a net budgeting agency from \$500,000 to \$1 million in our operating account.
2. (a) Allow IVH to transfer any remaining funds from our operating budget at the end of the fiscal year to our capitals account until \$40 million is accumulated to construct/remodel resident housing that is based around resident-centered care OR (b) support IVH's FY08 request to the Transportation, Infrastructure, & Capitals Committee for \$5,568,265 each year until \$40 million is accumulated.