

McDaniel, Brian

From: Henderson, Carl
Sent: Monday, August 11, 2003 2:15 PM
To: McDaniel, Brian; Zimmerman, Joseph (VISN 12)
Cc: DeRaad, Linda; Rhein, Hal
Subject: RE: NOID - Lakeside

To all:

Dr. Cummings sent an email version to me, and I have just returned from being on combined travel/leave last week. I'll include the statement below. I have a few other official statements in hard copy to submit. To where or whom should I send them?

thanks, - Carl Henderson

Good evening, I'm Ruth Rothstein, Chief of the Bureau of Health Services for Cook County. The Bureau of Health has a 464 in patient facility (John H. Stroger of Cook County on the west side, and 11 community hospitals, (Provident hospital on the south side of Chicago, a long term and rehab hospital of 400 beds (Oak Forest Hospital), the Core Center an out patient HIV-AIDS Infection disease facility, jail health services(Cermak Health Center), the Cook County Department of Health and "30" Ambulatory Care Clinics.

The importance of stating all the health facilities is to show the importance of ambulatory care. It is clear that we can not rely on a decades old, or half century old, healthcare delivery infrastructure.

VA's plan for redevelopment of the Lakeside site and reinvesting the proceeds at west side will greatly improve service to Chicago's veterans. Consolidation of Services at west side will provide a needed critical mass of patients to deliver quality services to our most important citizens, our veterans. Our veterans have given so much to our county and deserve the best healthcare that our country can give. A small daily census does not assure good care. The VA's investment in Chicago is impressive. The new bed tower on the west side will be state of the art and improve quality care for local veterans. The Lakeside site will be appropriately redeveloped to meet the needs of our veterans and the community.

The County of Cook has just built a state of the art cutting edge new County Hospital (John H. Stroger Hospital of Cook County) on the west side of Chicago. It is interesting to note that this facility was a 3,000 bed hospital in its early days and today a new hospital is 464 beds. Over the many decades, because more patients are taking care of standing on their feet through primary care, than lying on their back in patient beds have decreased throughout on the county.

The approach of re-investing in much needed new bed tower is a special honor for our veterans.

The V.A. has been a good partner for the medical schools and teaching hospitals in the Chicago area. This is truly the way to go. The VA and you the Veterans will be honored by this efficiency and outstanding cutting edge facility.

Sincerely,

Ruth M. Rothstein