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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 7, 2024

NEWS RELEASE

VA Manchester Healthcare System recognizes Veterans during National Salute to Veteran Patients week

MANCHESTER, N.H. – Today, the Manchester VA Medical Center announces it will recognize and honor Veterans from Feb. 12-16, 2024, during National Salute to Veteran Patients by visiting with medical center patients, promoting volunteer opportunities, and accepting Valentine's Day cards to give to all Veterans.

Since 1978, VA has designated the week of Valentine's Day to provide a weeklong commemoration for Veterans. Local commemoration efforts include cards made by local schools, special coffee and cocoa carts, and donations from our community partners.

"We are honored to host Veteran Service Organizations, community partners, and the general public to give thanks to our Veterans during National Salute to Veteran Patients week," said Kevin Forrest, medical center director. "If you are not able to schedule a visit, we would encourage you to mail Valentine's Day cards to our medical center to show your gratitude for their service."

In fiscal year 2023, schools, community groups, and youth organizations nationwide sent more than 200 valentines to Manchester VA Medical Center, which were distributed to Veterans. Additionally, more than 70 volunteers and community organizations contributed to events and activities recognizing Veterans.

To send Valentine's Day cards to Veterans, mail to Manchester VA Medical Center, ATTN: CDCE (135), 718 Smyth Road, Manchester, N.H. 03104.

VA Manchester Healthcare System is part of the VA New England Healthcare System which includes eight medical centers, located in the six New England states. VA Manchester is comprised of one main campus located in Manchester and four community-based outpatient clinics located in Conway, Portsmouth, Somersworth, and Tilton. The Portsmouth outpatient clinic is located at Pease Air National Guard Base.

Learn more about volunteer opportunities by visiting www.volunteer.va.gov or calling the Manchester VA Medical Center at 603-624-4366 ext. 1852.

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