

**VA**U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

# Press Release

Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 12  
11301 W. Cermak Road, Suite 810  
Westchester, IL 60154  
[www.visn12.va.gov](http://www.visn12.va.gov)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Charity Hardison  
(708) 492-3985 (office)  
[charity.hardison@va.gov](mailto:charity.hardison@va.gov)

## VA Great Lakes Health Care System Announces New Director at William S. Middleton VA Hospital: Christine Kleckner

Daniel S. Zomchek, Ph.D., Network Director, Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 12, is pleased to announce that Christine Kleckner, has been selected as the new Executive Director, William S. Middleton VA Hospital (Madison VA), Madison, Wisconsin, effective October 8, 2023.

Prior to this appointment, Kleckner served as the Associate Director of the Madison VA Hospital and its clinics, where she was responsible for executing the Director's guidance for planning, organizing, coordinating, and controlling the daily operations of a 119-bed health care facility with a \$635 million budget and over 2,600 employees. The organization consists of a 20-acre main campus located on the near west side of Madison and six community-based outpatient clinics in Madison, Beaver Dam, Baraboo, and Janesville, Wisconsin and Freeport and Rockford, Illinois. The service area includes more than 95,000 Veterans in 19 counties in Wisconsin and Illinois.

Kleckner has served in the Veterans Health Administration for 33 years, with more than two decades of experience as a clinician and manager before stepping into executive roles, including the most recent 12 years at the Madison VA Hospital and its clinics. She earned a Bachelor of Science in Community Medical Dietetics from Viterbo College, La Crosse, Wisconsin, and a Master's in Business Administration from Edgewood College, Madison, Wisconsin.

The Madison VA Hospital and its clinics are part of VISN 12, which includes facilities in Iron Mountain, Michigan; Tomah and Milwaukee, Wisconsin; and North Chicago, Hines, Danville, and Chicago, Illinois. The hospital has 105 acute care beds providing medical, surgical, neurological, cancer, transplant, and psychiatric care, as well as a 14-bed Community Living Center that includes 4 Hospice beds. The hospital provides complex quaternary medical, surgical, and psychiatric services and offers access to primary, mental health, physical therapy and select specialty services at all six community-based clinics. The Madison VA Hospital and its clinics provide over 500,000 visits annually through an extensive outpatient program and serves as a regional referral center for Veterans in need of heart, lung, and liver transplants.