

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 19, 2020

Aleda E. Lutz VA Medical Center
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Saginaw, MI 48602

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We invite any media interested in interviewing our VA staff to learn more about care and services to contact our Public Affairs Officer at 989-497-2500, extension 13020 or e-mail tara.scheuer@va.gov

Aleda E. Lutz VA and Nine Community Based Outpatient Clinics Ready to Serve, Those Who Have Served!

The Aleda E. Lutz VA in Saginaw and Community Based Outpatient Clinics in Alpena, Bad Axe, Cadillac, Cheboygan County, Clare, Gaylord, Grayling, Oscoda, and Traverse City, are inviting Veterans who are not currently enrolled in VA healthcare to do so.

“Although we may be providing care a bit differently during COVID by offering virtual or telephone care appointments, in some instances, our doors are still open to encourage Veterans who are not already enrolled in VA health benefits, which they have earned, to please consider learning more about their eligibility and enrollment options,” stated Dr. Barbara Bates, Medical Center Director.

Why Choose VA for Veteran care?

The VA

- ❖ is accredited by Joint Commission and reviewed by Office of Inspector General (OIG).
- ❖ understands Veterans better. Staff are specifically trained to provide quality, safe care to those who have served and specialize in Veteran health issues.
- ❖ offers a Whole Health approach to care to help optimize Veterans’ health goals and outcomes and incorporate integrated therapies which include yoga, tai chi, and more.
- ❖ offers specialized counseling for military-related issues and mental health conditions such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Substance Abuse, or Military Sexual Trauma (MST).
- ❖ exceeds private sector benchmarks for Preventive Health and Chronic Disease Prevention.
- ❖ involves Veterans and captures the Voice of the Veteran as we work to improve care and services.

- ❖ continues to receive high patient satisfaction in comprehensive care and services.
- ❖ is recognized nationally for successfully ending Veteran homelessness!
- ❖ provides continuity and coordination of care through the shared electronic medical records and other mechanisms in place for your providers to work together for you.
- ❖ has top-notch information technology through telehealth (virtual care), mobile phone applications, and MyHealtheVet, allowing you to receive care closer to your home, or in the comfort of your home!
 - ❖ VEText – A text comes to your phone to remind you of an upcoming appointment.
 - ❖ Open Slot Management – through VEText, Veterans may be given an option of an earlier appointment if a Veteran cancels his/her appointment.
 - ❖ Veterans' health records from the community easily shared with VA Medical Centers when community providers participate in the Veterans Health Information Exchange (VHIE) program.
- ❖ provides better access to Primary Care and Specialty Care and can help you coordinate multiple appointments for the same day, including x-ray, primary care, pharmacy and some specialty care appointments!

Veterans may learn more about the care and services the VA provides by visiting <https://www.saginaw.va.gov/services/index.asp>

The VA continues to work closely with community hospitals and health care providers to assure Veterans receive the right care at the right time, however, VA providers and staff are optimally-trained and experienced in caring for Veterans. We welcome Veterans to visit one of the VA locations or call 800-406-5143, Extension 13020 or 13121 to learn about their eligibility for VA care and services and how to enroll. Veterans may learn more about at: https://www.saginaw.va.gov/docs/Invitation_Veteran_Enrollment.pdf

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The Aleda E. Lutz VAMC in Saginaw, Michigan operates an 81-bed skilled nursing and rehabilitation Community Living Center. It provides care to over 37,400 Veterans in a 35-county geographic area, from mid-Michigan to the Mackinac Bridge. Veterans also receive care at one of our nine VA Community Based Outpatient Clinics located throughout Michigan. More information about this VA can be found at www.saginaw.va.gov.

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