

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

# News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 8, 2020

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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 [carrie.seward@va.gov](mailto:carrie.seward@va.gov)**

## **Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Showcases Technology-Based Care for Veterans**

The Aleda E. Lutz VA, Saginaw, and multiple Community Based Outpatient Clinics promotes a number of online tools and mobile applications to help Veterans keep track of their health records, manage their appointments and prescriptions, receive weight loss support, access tailored programs, and so much more.

### **My HealtheVet ([www.myhealth.va.gov](http://www.myhealth.va.gov))**

Veterans who are using My HealtheVet can't help but love the VA's Personal Health Record (PHR). Its web-based resources and tools offer you greater control over your care and wellness. My HealtheVet can empower you to make informed decisions and become an active partner in your health care, avoid duplicate tests and procedures, move easily from doctor to doctor with the VA Blue Button, improve the efficiency and safety of your health care, and receive personalized information from your VA Electronic Health Record. Some of the site's favorite features include refilling prescriptions, communicating with their health care teams through secure messaging, making their own appointments, and the opportunity to read their own health care team's notes from appointments and hospital stay, check labs and other test, and all from their home computers, tablets and mobile devices. Since the launch of My HealtheVet in 2003, the site has over 5.2 Million Registrants, over 152 Million Prescription Refills Requests, 2,271,986 active users, 4,703,790 secure messages sent/received and a 77.4 % User satisfaction!

### **Telehealth ([telehealth.va.gov](http://telehealth.va.gov))**

Local Veterans are using telehealth services to connect with their care teams and to share important health information. These virtual appointments are taking place in Veterans' homes, VA clinics and VA hospitals and are changing the way Veterans access VA health care. More than 900,000 Veterans used VA telehealth services to participate in over 2.6 million episodes of care in Fiscal Year 2019.

Beyond connecting virtually with Veterans local care teams, Telehealth prides itself on the use of Clinical Video Telehealth to connect the Veterans with specialists all across the country, often accessing resources at National Service Hubs. Home Telehealth is

also utilized by care teams to provide case management and disease management education to Veterans in their homes through mobile monitoring and video technologies. VA video Connect is a VA solution that allows Veterans to virtually meet up with their health care providers from anywhere, making health care convenient and reducing travel times for Veterans. We also have the ability to provide Store and Forward Telehealth, which allows an imager to take a picture of a dermatological site in question and send the images to a dermatologist at the Detroit VA or VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System to review and provide recommendations, decreasing travel and wait times.

**VA Mobile Apps ([mobile.va.gov/appstore](http://mobile.va.gov/appstore))**

Local Veterans are using many of VA's nearly two dozen patient-facing web and mobile apps. These online tools assist Veterans with issues ranging from anger management, weight loss, and mental health, to refilling prescriptions and scheduling their medical appointments. VA's mobile apps are utilized by thousands of Veterans each year and aim to improve the health of Veterans by providing technology they can access outside of a traditional office visit, saving them time and travel.

For more information about VA's Connected Care programs, visit [connectedcare.va.gov](http://connectedcare.va.gov).

If you are not yet enrolled in VA healthcare, there are a number of ways to learn about eligibility and enrollment. You may apply on-line at [www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction](http://www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction), visit any VA facility for an enrollment packet, or contact Eligibility at 989-497-2500, Ext. 13120 or 13121.

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](http://www.saginaw.va.gov).

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