 News Release

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**VA hosts Stand Down for Homeless Veterans**

NEW ORLEANS - Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System and its partners will host a Stand Down for Homeless Veterans from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 27 at the new Veterans medical center on South Galvez Street to provide care and highlight regional services for homeless Veterans and those at risk of becoming homeless.

Over the years, the VA has emphasized joining forces with local communities to help increase services to Veterans in need.

"The VA has made significant progress in reducing the number of homeless Veterans over the years, but there's more work to be done," said SLVHCS Medical Center Director Fernando O. Rivera, FACHE. "Our homeless Veterans are our most vulnerable population, and we are reaching out to offer services that can make a difference to their health and wellbeing."

During this event, the new VA medical center will complete health care screenings and services such as medical, pharmacy, dental, podiatry, and mental health.

At this year's Stand Down, the will be approximately 20 Veterans service organizations and community partners, such as the Benevolent and Protective Order of the Elks, Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary, Coca-Cola, American Legion Auxiliary and many more, have come together to provide hot meals, clothing, as well as information about other resources available to homeless Veterans throughout the region.

If you are interested in helping our homeless Veterans by volunteering at this year's Stand Down, please contact Cynthia White in Voluntary Service at [cynthia.white19@va.gov](mailto:cynthia.white19@va.gov) or call 504-507-2033 for more information.

For more information about the local VA homeless program, clinic locations and other services available to Veterans in southeast Louisiana, visit the website [www.neworleans.va.gov](http://www.neworleans.va.gov), visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/VANewOrleans](http://www.facebook.com/VANewOrleans) or follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/vaneworleans](http://www.twitter.com/vaneworleans) .

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