

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Veterans Offered Increased Access to Health Care Services

Jamestown: -- Chautauqua County Executive Gregory J. Edwards is proud to announce that the VA Western New York Healthcare System, located at 610 West 3rd Street, Jamestown, is now participating in the rural health initiative.

The rural health initiative is a multi-disciplinary team who provides primary care in a home based model serving Veterans in Chautauqua, Cattaraugus and southern Erie County. Edwards said this will expand VA health care to Veterans who may not be able to travel to a VA clinic or medical center.

"Many Veterans living in Chautauqua County have a difficult time traveling to the Jamestown facility for their appointments," Edwards said. "Offering care to Veterans in their homes is just another way we can help out these heroic men and women live an independent life."

Home based primary care is a unique primary care practice that meets the Veteran patients where they live – in their own homes.

Chautauqua County Veterans Service Agency Director Troy Smith said that as part of the initiative, a primary care provider will visit the patient in their home, along with a nurse and social worker. In addition a physical therapist, dietician and psychologist are also available to collaborate on the patient's care as necessary.

"The goal of home based primary care is to provide comprehensive care to Veterans so that they can continue to live independently in their home as long as it is safe to do so," Smith said.

Edwards praised Smith, the VSA and the staff of the Jamestown VA Clinic for all that they do for the community.

"This new initiative will allow us to provide excellent care in the most convenient setting, which will allow our Veterans to achieve their maximum degree of independence," Edwards said.

Along with the rural health initiative, the Jamestown VA Clinic also offers a number of other Primary Care Services for Veterans in the region. For more information, contact the Jamestown VA Clinic at (716) 338-1511.

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