|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Midwest Health Care Network 383x80 | **VA Midwest Health Care Network (VISN 23)****2805 Dodd Road, Suite 250****Eagan, Minnesota 55121**News Release |
| **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**April 8, 2022 | **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**Ronald Woolery, Public Affairs Officer VA Midwest Health Care Network **651-405-5635**Ron.Woolery@va.gov |

 |  |  |

**EAGAN, Minn.** — The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) is pleased to announce the appointment of Darwin Goodspeed, FACHE, as the new director of the VA Central Iowa Health Care System beginning May 9, 2022.

“Mr. Goodspeed has extensive experience and an outstanding track record with VISN 23, having served as the director of VA Sioux Falls Health Care System and the Acting Director of the VA Minneapolis Heath Care System prior to becoming the director of the VA Portland Health Care System” said Mr. Robert McDivitt, VA Midwest Health Care Network Executive Director. “I am certain he will once again provide superb leadership and be an asset to our VISN, our employees and volunteers, our health care partners, the community, and importantly, for the Veterans we are honored to serve.”

Mr. Goodspeed has been with the Department of Veterans Affairs for more than 13 years. He currently serves as the Director for the VA Health Care System, Portland, Oregon. He is a retired Naval officer having served 21 years on active duty first as a hospital corpsman and then as a Medical Service Corps officer. Mr. Goodspeed enlisted in the Navy in 1982 and was subsequently commissioned in 1990 and retired at the rank of lieutenant commander in 2003.

Mr. Goodspeed holds a Master’s of Business Administration from Southern New Hampshire College, and a Master’s of Health Care Administration from Baylor University and an undergraduate degree in Business Management/Information Systems from the University of Maryland. He is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives (FACHE).

The VA Central Iowa Health Care System (VACIHCS) is a level 2 Department of Veterans Affairs health care organization with inpatient services located in Des Moines and Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs) located in Knoxville, Marshalltown, Mason City, Fort Dodge, and Carroll, Iowa. The organization serves Veterans from 42 counties in Central Iowa and northern Missouri. The health care system operates acute, long-term care, and domiciliary beds. The Des Moines campus provides primary care; secondary medical, surgical, psychiatric and substance abuse inpatient and outpatient care; home care services; rehabilitation, mental health, and palliative nursing home care.

The VA Midwest Health Care Network, also known as Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 23, is one of 18 Health Care Systems in the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Health Administration. The Network serves more than 440,000 enrolled Veterans residing in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota and portions of Illinois, Kansas, Missouri, Wisconsin and Wyoming. Health care services are delivered through an integrated system of nine hospitals, 69 community-based outpatient clinics, eight community living centers and four domiciliary residential rehabilitation treatment programs. The Network employs more than 15,000 full-time employees and has an annual operating budget in excess of $3.3 billion.