Resilience, Recovery, and
Rejuvenation
at your
VA Manchester Healthcare
System

Presented by: **Kevin Forrest** 

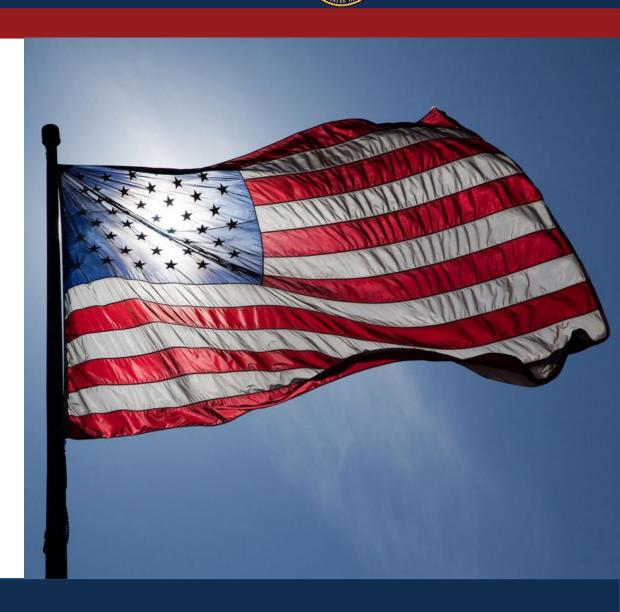
**Medical Center Director** 

Event:

11th Annual Seacoast Veterans Conference

Date:

**September 23, 2023** 



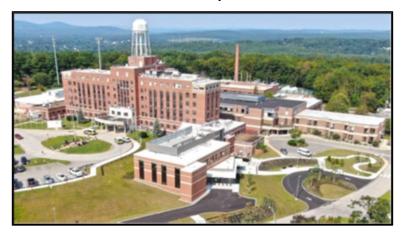
#### Agenda

- Welcome
- Choose VA Manchester Locations
- Facility Updates
- Clinical Services
- VA Policy Updates
- VA Manchester's 3 Rs Resilience, Recovery, and Rejuvenation
- Stay Connected



#### **Choose VA Manchester**

#### Main Campus



**Brady Sullivan Building** 



#### **VA Concord Ambulatory Surgical Center**





#### **Choose VA Manchester**

#### **Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOCs)**

Conway





Portsmouth

Somersworth





Tilton



Approximate schedule of renovations and date reopening at Manchester VAMC

- Eagle Entrance Renovations Fall 2023
   (Safety, enhanced access, and visibility)
- Fourth Floor: Operating Rooms & Recovery Restoration January 2024 (Flood response; gut renovation)
- MRI and Radiology Suites Spring 2024
- Demolition of Buildings 2, 3, 4 and 5 Fall 2024
   (Allows for perimeter road around facility and utility upgrades)
- Third Floor: Lab Suite Renovations Winter (December) 2024
- Women's Health Clinic w/Separate Entrance Fall 2025
   (Design is complete; with contracting)



#### Facility Updates – Cont'd.

Approximate schedule of renovations and date reopening at Manchester VAMC

- Specialty Care Building Fall 2026
   (Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) and Audiology Clinics)
- Second Floor Dental and Clinical Space Renovations In development, 2026
- New First Floor Canteen Renovation In development, 2027 (Centrally located gathering place)
- Fifth Floor Construction In development, 2027
   (Renovate clinical spaces and addition of simulation lab)
- Sixth Floor Construction In development, 2028 (Renovate clinical and administrative spaces)



#### MANCHESTER VA MEDICAL CENTER

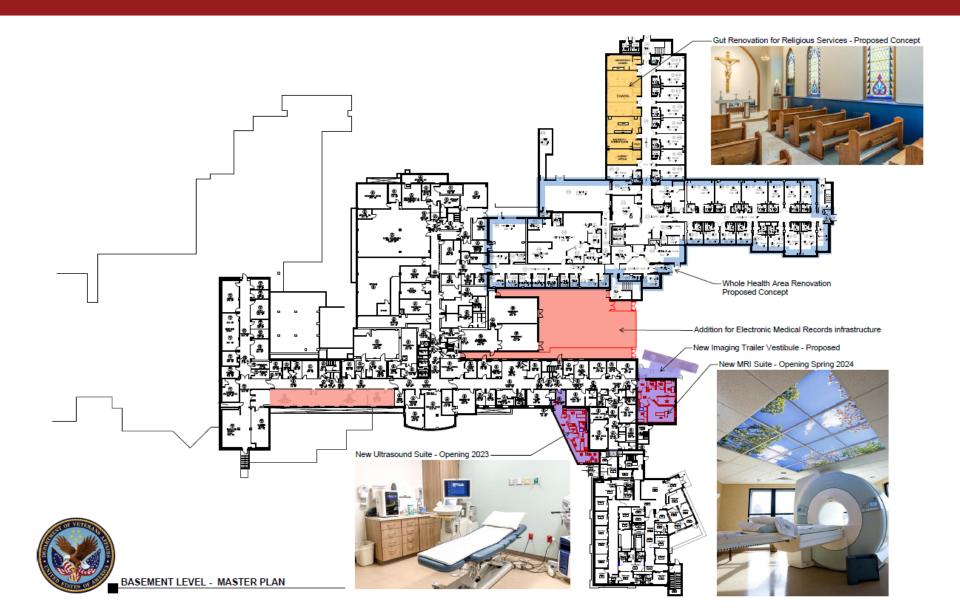
# PUBLIC-FACING MASTER PLAN

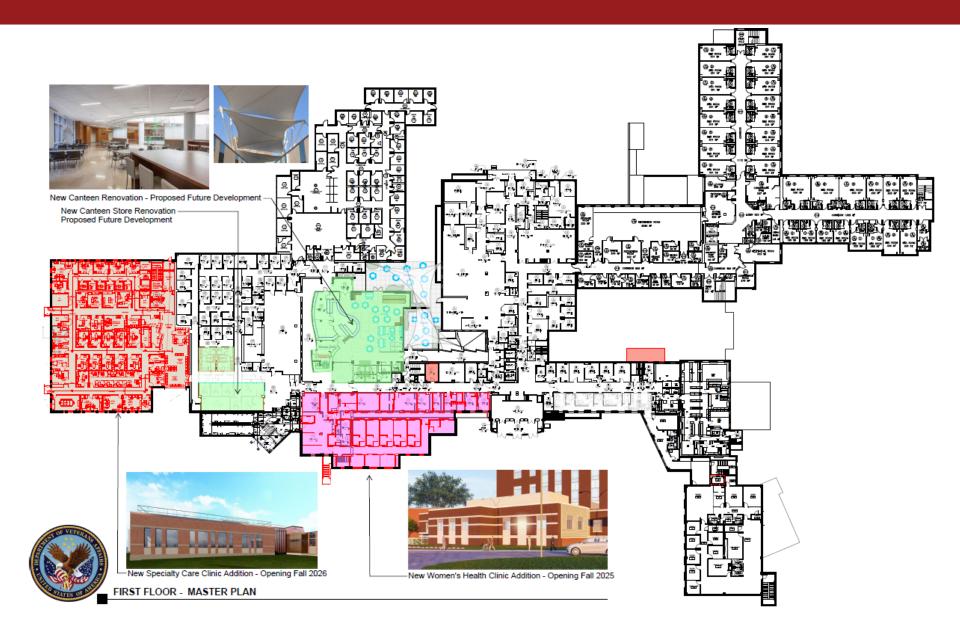
**WORKING DESIGN CONCEPTS** 

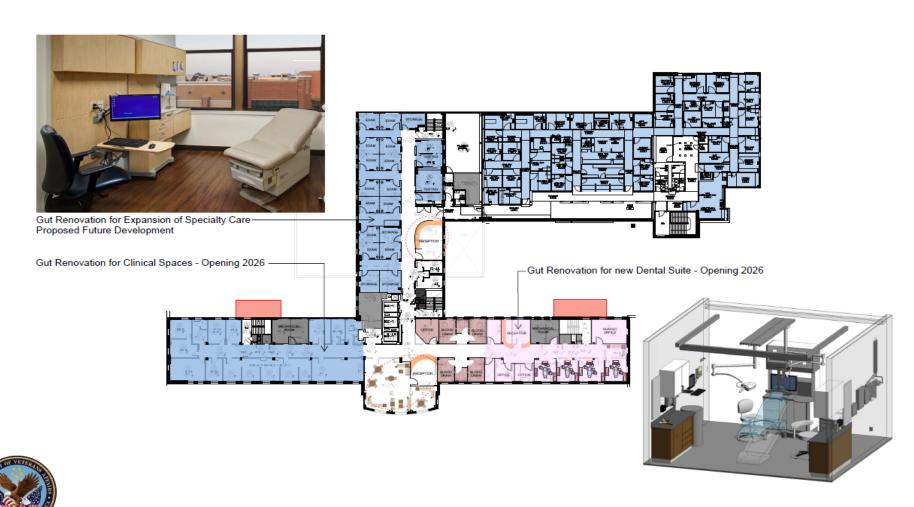
**UPDATE 9/12/2023** 

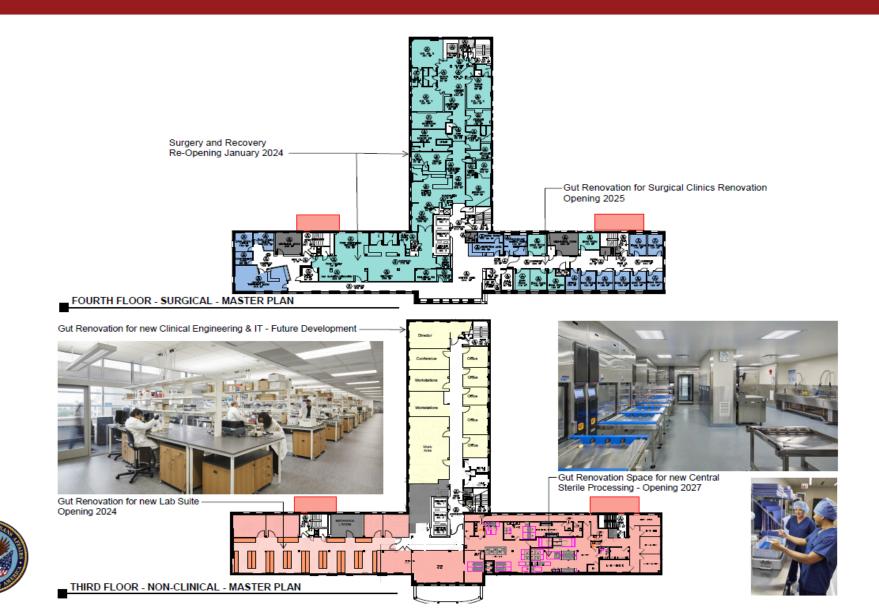
To keep updated on our Master Plan that follows, go to our website at: <a href="https://www.va.gov/Manchester-health-care">https://www.va.gov/Manchester-health-care</a> click on 'About Us' section













Gut Renovation for Oncology ——— Proposed Future Development

Education - Replace Infrastructure

Administration
Replace Infrastructure and Roof
Proposed Development

#### SIXTH FLOOR - MASTERPLAN



#### **Clinical Services**

Specialty Care – Estimated Arrivals

Orthopedic Surgeon - October 2023

Otolaryngologist - Ear, Nose, Throat (ENT) November 2023

Obstetrician-Gynecologist (OBGYN) - January 2024





#### **VA Policy Updates – COMPACT Act**

- September is Suicide Prevention Month
  - The Veterans' Comprehensive Prevention, Access to Care and Treatment Act or COMPACT Act took effect Jan. 17, 2023, ensuring eligible Veterans in acute suicidal crisis receive emergent suicide care in a VA or non-VA facility.

Also, remember the Veterans Crisis Line is also available 24/7

- Veterans Crisis Line has a new, easy-to-remember number.
   Dial 988 then Press 1, effective July 16, 2022.
  - -- Chat: www.veteranscrisisline.net
  - --Text: 838255



#### **VA Policy Updates – PACT Act**

 Are you a Veteran who deployed to a combat zone but never signed up for VA health care? If you left the military between 9/11/01 and 10/1/13, you should sign up now!



But act fast—
the PACT Act
special enrollment
deadline is
September 30.



#### **VA Policy Updates – PACT Act**

- The Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act or PACT Act expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures.
  - The PACT Act adds to the list of health conditions that we assume (or presume) are caused by exposure to these substances.
  - Every enrolled Veteran will receive an initial toxic exposure screening and a follow-up screening every 5 years.
  - Veterans who are not enrolled but who are eligible to enroll will have an opportunity to enroll and receive the screening.
  - Airborne Hazards and Open Burn Pit Registry (AHOBPR) exams.



#### VA Policy Updates – PACT Act Cont'd

What is your first step ...

Contact: Michael Bichrest

Telephone: (603) 203-8391

Email: Michael.Bichrest@va.gov

or

Learn more and apply by visiting <a href="www.va.gov/PACT">www.va.gov/PACT</a> or call 1-800-MY-VA 411



### **VA Policy Updates – SERVICE Act**

- The Supporting Expanded Review for Veterans in Combat Environments Act or SERVICE Act is named in honor of Dr. Kate Hendricks Thomas, a Marine Veteran and public health professional.
  - Dr. Thomas was deployed to Iraq in 2005, where she was exposed daily to a burn pit, and in 2018, was diagnosed with stage 4 breast cancer. Dr. Hendricks Thomas passed away on April 5, 2022, at the age of 42.
  - If you are a Veteran who served in an area where you may have had toxic exposures such as open burn pits, you are eligible for a breast cancer risk assessment to determine if a mammogram is right for you.

#### VA Manchester's 3 Rs - Resilience, Recovery, and Rejuvenation

#### Whole Health Programs



Whole Health is an approach to health care that empowers and equips people to take charge of their health and well-being and live life to the fullest.

- What REALLY matters to you in your life?
- What brings you a sense of joy and happiness?
- What do you want your health for?

To get started, call (603) 624-4366 ext. 5046



#### VA Manchester's 3 Rs - Resilience, Recovery, and Rejuvenation

#### Million Veteran Program

- Sign-up at mvp.va.gov or visit our Manchester VA Medical Center and get connected with Julie Duszlak, MVP program specialist
- VA has made hundreds of discoveries in areas such as Gulf War Illness, Post-traumatic Stress Disorder, Cancers, Diabetes, and more





#### VA Manchester's 3 Rs — Resilience, Recovery, and Rejuvenation

#### **Women Veterans Call Center**

- Available weekdays8 a.m. to 10 p.m.
- Saturday8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.



Call or text at 855-VA-WOMEN (855-829-6636) or use the online chat feature.



#### VA Manchester's 3 Rs – Resilience, Recovery, and Rejuvenation

#### Manchester VA Medical Center

718 Smyth Road Manchester, NH 03104

Date:

Saturday

October 28, 2023

Time:

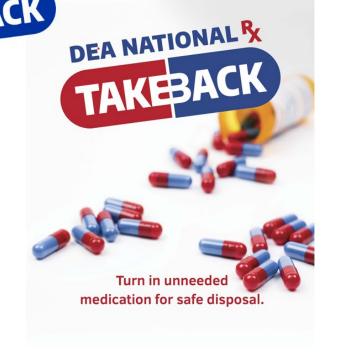
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

**Location:** 

Mountain Entrance

Too often, unused prescription drugs find their way into the wrong hands. That's dangerous and often tragic. That's why it was great to see thousands of folks from across the country clean out their medicine cabinets and turn in - safely and anonymously - a record amount of prescription drugs.

DEA NATIONAL &



Take Back Day (dea.gov)



#### VA Manchester's 3 Rs – Resilience, Recovery, and Rejuvenation

Access and Quality in VA Health Care

www.accesstocare.va.gov

- Changing how wait times are being calculated.
- Changes are based on Veteran focus groups.
  - Includes updates on Veteran experience information, timeliness within health care subspecialties, and ability to more easily view relevant medical center information.





### **Stay Connected With Us**

J A N U A R Y 2 0 2 3

#### VA MANCHESTER

PATIENT GUIDE



VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration

Manchester - Brady Sullivan - Conway - Portsmouth - Somersworth - Tilton

Follow us on social media:

**Facebook:** 

@ManchesterVAMC

**Twitter:** 

@VAManchester

Website:

www.va.gov/Manchester-health-care

Be sure to grab a Patient Guide before you leave today! Also available on our website for convenience.



## Thank you for your military service!

For more details on Veterans health care we offer, we have additional guest speakers during the conference and resource tables through the area on different programs and services to answer questions and offer assistance.



