

## Mobile clinics established



Mobile clinic from Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee, WI set up in Hattiesburg to see veterans affected by Hurricane Katrina.

Mobile clinics are now open in South Mississippi and Louisiana to provide medical treatment to veterans displaced by Hurricane Katrina.

The mobile clinics, located in Hattiesburg, McComb, and Hammond are open from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to Noon on Saturday, and 1p.m. to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

The addresses for the clinics are:

- Hattiesburg: 5001 Hardy Street
- McComb: Corner of Aston Street and West Avenue
- Hammond: 15790 Paul Vegas Drive

For more information about the mobile clinics, veterans can call 1-800-949-1009 ext. 6004. Veterans currently enrolled in a standing VA clinic that is operational should continue to seek treatment at that clinic.

## Placement continues for New Orleans VA employees

VISN 16 is temporarily placing New Orleans VA employees at other VA Medical Centers within the VISN. Housing is in short supply in all the affected areas but be assured that VISN 16 staff is exploring all options for housing and is working hard to provide employees with adequate housing in the areas they will be working.

For more information, employees can call 1-888-766-2474 from 6 a.m. until 10 p.m. (central time).

## VA Gulf Coast and New Orleans VA employees list

For a list of VA Gulf Coast and New Orleans VA employees, who have been accounted for, check the VISN 16 website at [www.visn16.med.va.gov](http://www.visn16.med.va.gov). If you come in contact with or know other people who are not on this list, please have them contact VISN 16 at 1-888-766-2474.

## Banking help

FDIC has set up a 24 hour hotline, 1-877-275-3342, for those affected by Hurricane Katrina. Information can be obtained about bank accounts, lost financial records, ATM cards, direct deposits, and how to contact a bank branch.

## Helpful contact information

Red Cross 1-866-Get Info

Red Cross 1-800-Help Now (Donations)

Red Cross family linking service 1-877-Loved-1S

FEMA: 1-800-621-FEMA (3362); TTY: 1-800-462-7585

Toll free for VA employees 1-888-766-2474

Toll free for Veterans 1-800-507-4571

Veterans benefits and eligibility questions 1-877-222-VETS

[www.visn16.med.va.gov](http://www.visn16.med.va.gov)

[www.firstgov.gov](http://www.firstgov.gov)

[www.hurricanekatrinasurvivors.com](http://www.hurricanekatrinasurvivors.com)

[www.opm.gov/katrina/](http://www.opm.gov/katrina/)

## Employees urged to use the help of local relief agencies

Many of our employees from the Gulf Coast are eligible for assistance from other agencies. VISN 16 urges all employees who are dealing with the aftermath of Katrina to contact local relief agencies and their insurance agents.

## Notice about employees' cars

The VISN 16 staff is currently working on a plan to retrieve employees' cars from the New Orleans VA. More details will be published in this newsletter when they become available.

## Employees heralded as heroes

From CNN to Paul Harvey to the local barber shop, employees throughout VISN 16 are being portrayed as heroes. From those who rode out the storm in the medical centers caring for our veterans, to those who worked endless hours to evacuate the hundreds of people from New Orleans VA and to send critical supplies to the VA Gulf Coast, there are countless stories of VA employees going far above their normal calls of duty.

Whether you were on the front lines during this crisis or you are helping with the aftermath, the VISN 16 office staff thanks you for your dedication and heroic efforts.

### About After the Storm

The *After the Storm* newsletter is a publication produced by the South Central VA Health Care Network in an effort to supply updated information to those affected by Hurricane Katrina as we continue to recover from this devastating storm.

This newsletter will be published on a recurring basis. For more information about the publication or to provide story ideas or information, call April Smith, writer/editor, VISN 16, at 601-364-7902.

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