



## Hastings Veterans Home SWS Site Visit Report



**Date:** Jan 11, 2018

**Location:** Minneapolis Veterans Home

**Dept.** Rehab Committee Members: Wilson Spence, Darrel Redepenning, Bill Brockberg, Roy Bressler and Dan Tengwall. Dept. Service Officer, Jeremy Wolfsteller.

**RE:** The American Legion Dept. Rehabilitation Committee is tasked with staying engaged with agencies that aid Minnesota veterans. The committee does this by conducting System Worth Saving Site Visits throughout the year. These locations include Sioux Falls, Fargo, St. Cloud and Minneapolis VA Healthcare Systems, St. Paul and Fargo Regional Offices, Minneapolis, Hastings, Luverne, Fergus Falls and Silver Bay Veterans Homes. Additional Site Visits are conducted at VA CBOC's, Vets Centers, and Minnesota nonprofits that serve veterans when the budget allows.

**Meeting Attendance:** Chairman Wilson Spence, Bill Brockberg, Dan Tengwall, Roy Bressler, Jeremy Wolfsteller and Administrator Burnside.

## **Hastings Overview:**

At the Minnesota Veterans Home - Hastings, we are committed to providing a full continuum of high-quality care and service focusing on rehabilitation, reintegration into the community, and supportive care for optimal enrichment of our Residents' lives. Our care is enhanced by the natural beauty of our surroundings. We are located in Hastings - a tranquil, cozy community just minutes from the Twin Cities. Our beautiful 128-acre wooded campus includes nature trails, a biking path, an outdoor pavilion, a heated screened porch for year-round use, a horseshoe pit and much more. The campus has 179 domiciliary beds in private and semi-private rooms. Residents can benefit from the peace of living on a serene campus but may also choose to be active in a small, historic Minnesota town.

Established in 1978, the Home provides a wide variety of services for Veterans suffering from chemical dependency, mental health illnesses, dual disorders, and/or the debilitating effects of aging. Some of our special services include sobriety maintenance, vocational rehabilitation services, mental health services, and educational services.

Our Residents enjoy an assortment of services designed to meet their individual needs, including:

- Nursing staff on-site 24 hours a day to provide individualized care
- Physicians and Nurse Practitioners on-site
- Medication management
- Meal services and snacks
- Social services
- Therapeutic recreation
- Sobriety support
- Vocational rehabilitation
- Sheltered work opportunities
- Mental health services
- Transportation to medical appointments
- Chaplain services
- Benefits assistance
- Cashier/banking
- Linen service
- Pharmaceutical services

## Hastings Veterans Home 2018 System Worth Saving Site Visit

### **Meeting Minutes:**

Andrew Burnside has been over-seeing the MPLS domiciliary and works on campus Monday and Friday; currently 37 residents there. MPLS Dom not taking admissions but will be soon.

95% of Hastings staff are FTE vs the part time model at the Minneapolis Home. Leadership consist of psychiatrist, social worker, rec therapist, RN senior to RN Supervisor. A new Director of Nursing recently hired at Hastings. Hastings is looking at creating an HST position to work with residents that need some assistance with activities of daily living. The question is can the budget support the request.

Because Hastings is a Board and Care Facility they assist veterans with dual diagnosis recovery with hopes of transitioning veterans back into the community. Because the St. Cloud VA Healthcare Center has a dual diagnosis program that is rated high amongst other VAMC's Hastings has partnered with their program Director to train Hastings staff techniques to assist their residents.

The new smoking policy for the Homes is in affect for both the employees and residents. Hastings employees have a strict nonsmoking policy on campus while residents can only smoke outside at designated areas and inside certain rooms.

According to the 90/50 Rule, residents within the domiciliary have priority into skilled nursing care over those on a wait list.

Veterans that file for disability claims to include increases and are awarded more compensation will have to pay majority of it to the Home. Veterans are only allowed to keep the first \$90 of their monthly income. Once a veteran reaches 70% SC disability then they can keep all their income according to 90/50 Rule.

*Chairman: Wilson Spence*

*Secretary: Jeremy Wolfsteller*



# The American Legion

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## Minnesota Veterans Home Facility Questionnaire

### Executive Leadership

➤ **Facility name:** MN Veterans Home - Hastings

➤ **Wait times:**

- What are the average wait times for veterans to get into the Home?  
No waiting lists
- What are the average wait times for spouses to get into the Home?  
No waiting lists

➤ **Staff Vacancies (by occupation):**

- What is your total number of vacant positions and what are the positions?  
6; One .8 LPN, One 1.0 OASI (Admin Asst), One .8 RN, One 1.0 Dietary Supervisor, One 1.0 Social Worker and One 1.0 Gen. Repair Worker
- How long have the positions been vacant? LPN: 1 wk, OASI: 2 months, RN: 2 months, Dietary Supervisor; 2 months, SW; 3 months, GRW; 0(New Position)
- Reason for vacancies? Turnover, low applicant pool; LPN, RN, Dietary Supervisor, SW, Large applicant pool (70+) for OASI
- Do you have a succession plan in place to address your current and future vacancies? We have a very low turnover rate, no identifiable trends.

➤ **Facility Demographics:**

- What type of care/services is unique to your Veterans Home?  
We are a board and care facility, provide services to optimize quality of life and promote transition back to the community with emphasis in, mental health, drug and alcohol programming and mild medical needs.
  
- What percentage of residence are SC 70% or greater? 3%
  
- What is your authorized and operating bed capacity?  
Authorized: 200      Operating: 178
  
- How many admissions did you have the last fiscal year?  
FY17 : 21
  
- Please provide a breakdown of your funding allocations for the past three fiscal years.  
  

FY15	Maintenance: 1,473,623	Per Diem: 2,253,698
FY16	Maintenance: 1,557,286	Per Diem: 2,220,334
FY17	Maintenance: 1,557,837	Per Diem: 2,243,893
  
- Of the number of enrolled veterans/spouses, please provide the number of:
  - Men 136
  
  - Women 1
  
  - Spouses 0

➤ **Patient Safety:**

- If available, please provide copies of your last annual Patient Safety Reports. MDH and VA annual surveys will be available.

➤ **Outreach Activities:**

- How many outreach events did your Veterans Home participate in during last fiscal year? 18
- How many outreach events is your Veterans Home to participate in this fiscal year? 21

➤ **Facility Upgrades:**

- What are new remodeling projects completed or wanting to develop?
- 1. Replaced/added asphalt and curbing to roads and parking lots.
- 2. New flooring and painting in Bldg 23 & 24 halls and dining areas and resident lounges.
- 3. Bike trail connections between city parks east and west of campus. (Joint accomplishment with city of Hastings.)
- 4. Replaced all furniture/seating in all resident lounges/break areas.
- 5. MIA dedication amphitheatre with flagpole, benches, memorial.
- 6. Replaced all exterior/parking lights with LED lighting.
- 2018 Projects: Replace HVAC, elevator, windows and flooring in all three floors of Bldg 25. Mural replacement on 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Bldg 23 by artist. Boiler plant painting and upgrade. (cosmetic) Replacement of deteriorated surface material on ends of Bldgs 23 and 25.(Concrete/styrafoam mix)

➤ **Medicare Certification:**

- Where is the Home currently with being certified? Board and Care facilities are not eligible for CMS certification