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# News Release

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 13, 2011**

### **VA Black Hills “VA2K Walk and Roll” Event Benefits Homeless Veterans and Promotes Wellness**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Black Hills Health Care System will host a 2K walk and roll event on June 2, 2011, any time between 11:00am and 1:00pm at the Fort Meade and Hot Springs VA Medical Centers to benefit homeless Veterans and support health and wellness.

“Worksite wellness activities enhance employee engagement and contribute to a more productive and healthy workforce,” said Peter Henry, Director. “VA Black Hills Health Care System is proud to conduct this VA2K event and we are committed to ensuring we have a happy and healthy workforce here to serve our Veteran community, while at the same time making a contribution to homeless Veterans in the Black Hills area.”

The VA Black Hills Health Care System event is just one of many 2Ks taking place that day at other VA facilities across the country. Although there is no registration fee, employees, Veterans, volunteers and the public who choose to participate in the event are asked to donate three can of food for homeless Veterans. Participation is open to the community; donations are optional for this group.

The VA Black Hills Health Care System 2K will be held at the Fort Meade and Hot Springs VAMC’s. Participants should register outside of the canteen at each campus any time between 11:00am and 1:00pm. In the event of inclement weather, the 2K will be held indoors, but registration will remain at the canteens. Pre-registration is not required. For additional information and more event details, please contact the local 2K coordinators, Diana Bader at 605-745-2000, Ext. 92400 or Marni Whalen at 605-347-2511, Ext. 97019.

VA’s employee wellness program is known as WIN (Wellness is Now). WIN empowers employees with the knowledge, skills and tools they need to create a culture of health and wellness. Further, the group encourages employees to use their appreciation of wellness to inspire Veterans to live healthier lifestyles. WIN integrates traditional occupational safety and health programs with health promotion activities, addressing both workplace and worker health and helping VA employees to do their important work of serving the Nation’s Veterans. For more information on the VA Black Hills Health Care System VA2K or other Veteran and employee wellness programs visit us at [www.blackhills.va.gov](http://www.blackhills.va.gov).

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