



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Deb Eiring, Public Affairs Specialist
605.745.2031 (Daytime)
605.890-2758 (Cell)

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
August 15, 2011

VA to Host Women's Retreat

The specialized Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Outpatient Treatment Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Black Hills Health Care System is hosting a women's retreat October 14-16, 2011 at the Fort Meade VA Medical Center.

The semi-annual weekend retreat, beginning at 12pm on October 14th, is for women Veterans of all eras and family members (wives, significant others, mothers, adult daughters, etc) of combat Veterans. The major objectives of the retreat are to help participants develop a better understanding of PTSD, develop a support system and provide an opportunity to develop new perspectives in relationships with their Higher Power, family, friends and the broader world in which they live.

"The semi-annual retreat is in its 17th year and is designed to help women look at some of the basic questions in their lives," said Cathy Edler, Addiction Therapist for the Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Program (PCT) and Retreat Coordinator. "The volunteer facilitators and participants build a community of women who take the time to support each other. The retreat does not provide all the answers, but will provide the time, place and personal support for you to search within yourself."

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) organization graciously provides a yearly charitable grant to cover meals and lodging for eligible participants. Registration is on a first come, first served basis.

Participants must be screened and pre-register by phoning the PCT Program (Monday-Friday 8am-4pm) at 720-7449 or 1-800-743-1070, extension 7449.

####