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# News Release

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**May 11, 2012**

### **VA Black Hills HCS Employees Selected for VISN 23 Leadership Program**

VA Black Hills HCS Employees William Fahrenbruck, Licensed Mental Health Counselor; Linda Fellows, Telehealth Dietitian; and Carla Neuberger, Associate Chief Nurse have been selected for the Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) 23 Leadership Effectiveness Accountability Development Program (LEAD) Class of 2012-2013.

The 18-month LEAD program focus is on the development of leadership skills as opposed to management or supervisory skills. The curriculum is designed to develop individuals with recognized potential for higher-level leadership positions; enhance participant's knowledge of the overall operation of VISN 23, Veterans Health Administration and the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and enhance participant's ability to contribute to achieving VISN 23 strategic initiatives.

Fahrenbruck, Fellows and Neuberger comprise the seventh class representing VA Black Hills HCS in VISN 23 LEAD, a program in place since 2005. A total of 17 VA Black Hills HCS employees have successfully graduated from VISN 23 LEAD, joining over 100 other VISN 23 graduates from the VA facilities in the states of North and South Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa and Nebraska.

"The VISN 23 LEAD Program, along with local and National leadership development programs, is central to the Succession Strategic Plan of VA Black Hills HCS," said Steve DiStasio, Director. "Mr. Fahrenbruck, Ms. Fellows and Ms. Neuberger are among the many new leaders VA Black Hills is privileged to support through development programs and internal coaching."

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