

463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the National Commission on VA Nursing will hold its first meeting on May 8, 2002, at the Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Room 930, Washington, DC 20420. The meeting will begin at 8:15 a.m. and end at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be open to the public.

The Commission, established under the "Department of Veterans Affairs Programs Enhancement Act of 2001," is to consider legislative and organizational policy changes to enhance the recruitment and retention of nurses and other nursing personnel in VA; and to evaluate the future of the nursing profession in VA. The Commission is required, not later than two years from the date of its first meeting, to submit to Congress and the Secretary of Veterans Affairs a report on the Commission's findings and recommendations.

The meeting will begin with a discussion of the Commission's goals and work plans, and will be led by the Commission's Chairperson, Marilyn M. Pattillo, Ph.D., R.M., C.S., N.P. The Commission will be briefed on VA's mission and on the role of VA nursing personnel in meeting that mission. Members will also be provided information on VA human resources polices related to nursing personnel, an assessment of VA's current and anticipated nurse staffing trends, and information concerning VA's current initiatives to enhance the recruitment and retention of nursing personnel.

No time will be allocated for receiving oral presentations from the public. However, members of the public may direct questions or submit prepared statements for review by the Commission in advance of the meeting, in writing only, to Ms. Stephanie

Williams, Program Analyst, at Department of Veterans Affairs (10A2N), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. Any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting should contact Ms. Williams, at (202) 273-4944.

Dated: April 17, 2002.

By direction of the Secretary.

Nora E. Egan,

Committee Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Voluntary Service National Advisory Committee, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs gives notice under Public Law 92-463 that the annual meeting of the Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) National Advisory Committee (NAC) will be held at the Double Tree Hotel at Jantzen Beach, 909 Hayden Island Dr., Portland Oregon, on May 15-18, 2002.

The committee, comprised of fifty-nine national voluntary organizations, advises the Under Secretary of Health and other members of the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office staff on how to coordinate and promote volunteer activities within VA facilities. The primary purposes of this meeting are: to provide an opportunity for the committee's review of volunteer policies and procedures; to accommodate full and open communications between the organizations, representatives and the Voluntary Service Office and field staff; to provide educational opportunities geared towards improving volunteer programs with special emphasis on

methods to recruit, retain, motivate and recognize volunteers; and, to approve committee recommendations.

The meeting sessions are scheduled for 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. on May 15, 2002; 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. on May 16, 2002; 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. on May 17, 2002; and 8:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. on May 18, 2002, with a closing ceremony at 6 p.m. that day. The May 15 session will principally involve opening ceremonies, remarks by several officials and a keynote address by the VA Under Secretary for Health. The May 16 session will feature a presentation of the meeting's objectives, consideration of several committee and subcommittee reports, a presentation on the Veterans History Project and four educational workshops on communications, corporate volunteering, career focus, and recruitment. On May 17, educational workshops will continue and keynote speakers will address the business session and the James Parke Memorial Scholarship Luncheon. The May 18 session will focus on several awards recognizing exceptional volunteer service, will feature another keynote speaker, and will be followed by a closing ceremonies event in the evening.

The meeting is open to the public. Individuals interested in attending are encouraged to contact: Ms. Laura Balun, Administrative Officer, Voluntary Service Office (10C2), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420, (202) 273-8392.

Dated: April 17, 2002.

By Direction of the Secretary.

Nora E. Egan,

Committee Management Officer.

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