

State Veterans Homes

Jeff Hanson

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Hanson 1 and Hansen 2





State Officers

- Jeff Hanson – Responsible for Central Utah Veterans Home in Payson
- Todd Hansen – Responsible for William Christoffersen Veterans Home in Salt Lake City

Presentation Outline

- Todd will discuss the Department & Nursing Homes
- Jeff will discuss Eligibility, Costs and Financial Issues
- Todd will discuss current nursing home operations

Utah Department of Veterans & Military Affairs

- UDVMA seeks to make Utah the best place in the nation for Veterans to live and succeed.
- Four areas of focus:
- Outreach to all veterans to help them find and access the benefits they have earned.
- Provide excellent nursing home care for eligible veterans and family members
- Provide dignified and respectful burials
- Coordinate with all military installations (new)

Four State Veterans Home

- Salt Lake City – William E. Christoffersen State Veterans Home – 81 beds. Constructed in 1998.
- Traditional nursing home style. Mostly double rooms, shared bathroom. Two wings of 30 each, one unit of 21.
- Recently completed a remodel of floors and patient rooms

William E. Christoffersen Salt Lake Veterans Home



State Veterans Homes

- George E. Wahlen State Veterans Home – Ogden
- The largest state facility – 120 beds
- Opened in 2010.
- Private rooms with shared bathrooms
- Four 30-bed units, separate dining, activities, etc

State Veterans Homes

- Southern Utah Veterans Home – Ivins
- Opened in 2013
- 108 beds – approximately 105,000 sq. ft.
- 100% private rooms with private baths

Southern Utah Veterans Home - Ivins



State Veterans Homes

- Central Utah Veterans Home – Payson
- Opened in 2013
- 108 beds – approximately 105,000 sq. ft.
- 100% private rooms with private baths

- Floor plans are nearly identical, outer design and interior décor differs

Central Utah Veterans Home



V.A. Construction Grant Program

- VA pays 65%
- State pays 35%
- State must have all of their money committed before approval is granted
- State owns facility upon completion
- Construction must comply with VA standards

Greenhouse Model

- Designs and practices are constantly evolving.
- Greenhouse model is independent housing units of 8-12 residents in separate homes, sharing some central services
- Our new homes are “modified greenhouse” with connecting corridors
- Pros and cons of different designs

Management Contracts

- Each facility is managed and operated by private nursing home company – Avalon has all four veterans homes contracts
- They are responsible for maintaining all State and Federal standards
- Profit is limited
- Win: Win for State, Avalon and Veterans

Eligibility

- Who qualifies for admission?
- What are the criteria for admission?
- How do I get on the waiting list?
- How long will I wait for an admission?

Paying the Cost of Care

- 70% Service Connected Disability
- Regular Per Diem, VA and patient split
- Spouses/Widows
- Pension / Aid & Attendance
- Medicare / Medicaid
- Pharmacy coverage

Caring for our Elderly Veterans

- Salt Lake- 71 vets; 6 family; 77 total; **95% occ.**
- Ogden- 100 vets; 15 family; 115 total; **96% occ**
- Ivins- 83 vets; 9 family; 92 total; **85% occ**
- Payson- 86 vets; 9 family; 95 total; **88% occ**
- **TOTAL 340 vets; 39 family; 379 total; 91% occ**
- Total Veterans admitted to care facilities in FY14 - 416
- Total family members admitted – 44
- Total cared for in a Veterans Home - 656

Quality Care

- Each facility is inspected by a professional team from both the State DOH and the Federal VA each year.
- Both new nursing homes passed both surveys on the first try last year.
- Both Ogden and Salt Lake are 4-5 star facilities

Recreation/ Activity Programs

- Fishing
- Horseback Riding
- U of Utah sporting events
- Bees Baseball
- Concerts
- Symphonies
- Rafting trips
- Wendover junkets

Community Involvement

- Boy Scouts
- Veterans Support Groups
- Military Groups
- Political Leaders
- Community Groups