



VA Medical Center  
510 Butler Avenue  
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## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Extended clinic hours and child care at Veterans Hospital**

MARTINSBURG, W.Va. – The Martinsburg VA Medical Center (VAMC) will begin a 90-day pilot to provide free child care to Veteran’s children age four to 12 during evening appointments beginning Monday, May 5.

The medical center already offers extended hours in Primary Care and Mental Health from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. “We know that many of our younger Veterans lead busy lives with jobs and raising young children,” said Fredrick Soetje, acting medical center director. “Extending evening appointments was an easy solution but now we are upping our game with free child care to assist our Veterans.” In a partnership with Little Eagle Child Care Center located on the Martinsburg VAMC campus the medical center will be offering free child care to our Veterans who are seen in Primary Care or Mental Health during the extended hours.

During this 90-day pilot, Veterans will be able to drop off their children between the ages of four and 12 at the Little Eagle Child Care Center on the VA campus. “The pilot will assist in determining not only the usage of the child care but what other services our Veterans feel we should be providing after hours,” said Sarah Burns, mental health business manager. “We want to know what additional support the VA can provide to make it easier for our Veterans to use the health care they have earned.”

Veterans interested in scheduling an appointment with Primary Care can call their CPC team. For a Mental Health appointment, Veterans can call the HOPE Center at 304-263-0811, ext. 3344 or 3347.

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## **Extended clinic hours and child care**

More information and child care registration forms are available on the web at [www.martinsburg.va.gov](http://www.martinsburg.va.gov) and clicking on the feature story.

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*The Martinsburg VA Medical Center mission is to honor America's Veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being. Located in West Virginia, the medical center offers a comprehensive range of services, including internal medicine, ambulatory surgery, audiology and speech pathology, dental, nursing home, nutrition, podiatry, prosthetics, women's health, mental health, and rehabilitation medicine. With a service area of nearly 125,000 Veterans in West Virginia, Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, the medical center operates seven Community Based Outpatient Clinics (CBOC). Four of the clinics are VA-staffed and are located in Cumberland, Hagerstown and Fort Detrick, Md., and Stephens City, Va. Three of the clinics are contracted and are located in Petersburg and Franklin, W. Va., and Harrisonburg, Va.*