



# NEWS RELEASE

Martinsburg VA Medical Center  
510 Butler Avenue  
Martinsburg, WV 25405



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Contacts:  
Kevin McIver / Chris Rose /  
Cali Coulthard  
(304) 263-0811 ext 4018

## Martinsburg VA Medical Center Earns Presidential GreenGov Award



Martinsburg VA Medical Center staff at the Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington, D.C. The staff traveled to the nation's capital to receive the coveted 2010 GreenGov Presidential Good Neighbor Award for their Green Kitchen initiative. *Photo: VA / Ann R. Brown*

MARTINSBURG, W.Va. – The Martinsburg Veterans Affairs Medical Center's Nutrition and Food Service was honored last night at the nation's capital with the 2010 GreenGov Presidential Good Neighbor Award for their Green Kitchen initiative.

The initiative is credited with decreasing the medical center's landfill food waste by 86 percent while contributing 265 pounds of weekly food donations to a non-profit transitional housing group for Veterans.

"The green initiative that Barbara Hartman and Ann Brown have led the way with is an example for the entire country," said Acting Network Director Fernando O. Rivera. Brown is the medical center director and Hartman serves as the Nutrition and Food Service chief.

According to Brown, the award validates how the medical center serves as an exemplary steward of the community through the Green Kitchen program where farmers, VA staff and Veterans are brought together to bring locally grown foods from Veteran-owned farming businesses to the campus.

"As the leader in health care for Veterans in our area," said Brown, "it is important that we also create innovative ways to partner with our community as we serve America's Veterans."

This connection to community was not lost on the Acting Network Director.

"I always tend to think of VA as a family. The Martinsburg VA is such a strong leader in this community because it's part of the family this community creates to take care of its Veterans," said Rivera.

The GreenGov Presidential Awards celebrate extraordinary achievement in the pursuit of Federal Leadership in Environmental, Energy and Economic Performance.

“It is going beyond thinking the VA is just a VA health care system,” said Rivera, “and that’s the strong tradition of the Martinsburg Medical Center—strong leadership and a strong commitment to community.”

GreenGov Presidential Awards: <http://www.fedcenter.gov/opportunities/awards/greengovpresidentialawards/>

White House hands out awards for green efforts - Federal News Radio, Oct. 7, 2010  
<http://www.federalnewsradio.com/?nid=418&sid=2072953>

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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 130,000 veterans in West Virginia, Maryland, Virginia, and Pennsylvania, the Medical Center operates three VA-staffed Outpatient Clinics in Cumberland and Hagerstown, Md., and Stephens City, Va., and three contract clinics in Franklin and Petersburg, W.Va. and Harrisonburg, Va. Construction for a new clinic in Fort Detrick, Md. has started with an opening tentatively scheduled in February 2011.