The Draft Master Plan, adopted by the Secretary of VA in 2016, intends to redevelop, reconfigure, and transform the VA West Los Angeles Campus into a vibrant community where all Veterans can receive health care, benefits, employment, and other supportive services. Significant milestones for FY 2017 include:

- Bruno, a friendly one-year old Chocolate Labrador, is the newest addition to the VAGLAHS Police department in the form of a K-9. Bruno can locate a missing person or patient using his keen senses faster than people and with less resources. Locating suspected narcotics is another one of Bruno’s expertise. Bruno’s talents add an extra level of security and safety Veterans appreciate, especially those receiving drug and alcohol addiction treatment and want to live in a sober, clean and drug free environment. Bruno and his handler Sergeant Ronald O’Bannon are the first of two K-9 units assigned to VAGLAHS. Oscar, a German Shorthaired Pointer and his handler, Lieutenant Ralph Garcia, will join the program in November after completing K-9 law enforcement training in Riverside, California.

- The West Los Angeles Leasing Act of 2016 (Public Law 114-226) authorizing the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter certain leases at VA’s West Los Angeles Campus, to make improvements to the enhanced-use lease authority of the Department, and for other purposes.

- VA issued its’ Notice of Intent to prepare a Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement, which will evaluate a range of alternatives for potential ways to reconfigure and redevelop the VA West Los Angeles Campus, expand points of access, provide additional housing for homeless Veterans, and better serve the health care needs of Veterans in the greater Los Angeles service area.

- VA selected a developer and service provider for another enhanced-use lease on the West Los Angeles Campus for Buildings 205 and 208 to provide approximately 100 units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless Veterans.

**VAPD’s PAWSative additions**

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**did you know**

VA GREATER LOS ANGELES HEALTHCARE SYSTEM is home to the country’s oldest and largest public repository of human neuro-specimens (brain specimens, spinal cords, cerebrospinal fluid, serum, blood cells and urine.) The “Brain Bank” was established in 1961 as a repository for neurologic research and has been located at the VA West Los Angeles Medical Center since 1971. The bank, headed by Dr. Rashed M. Nagra, provides the highest quality of standardized pre- and post-mortem human specimens for VA’s biomedical research. The specimens are from clinically and pathologically well-characterized cases of neuropsychiatric diseases and disorders and used for studies in neuroscience. The facility has banked more than 15,000 specimens and currently has over 3,000 brains and 16,000 fluid cases. Our sizeable inventory of clinically and neuropathologically classified specimens ensures we continually fulfill the needs of 60 large research projects on average of per year. To learn more about the Brain Bank or to donate specimens to help neuroscience research call 310-268-3536 or visit www.brainbank.ucla.edu.
WORKFORCE
Total Employees: 5,445
Employees That Are Veterans: 1,446
- Vietnam Era Veteran: 317
- Pre-Vietnam Era Veteran: 11
- Post-Vietnam Era Veteran: 1,070
- Not Vietnam Era Veteran: 48

OPERATIONAL BEDS
- Total Operational Bed: 1,049
- Hospital Operating Beds: 316
- Skilled Nursing Home Beds: 372
- Domiciliary Beds: 296
- Compensated Work Therapy (CWT): 65

RESEARCH
Total funding: $36,269,246
Research articles published: 94

VOLUNTEERING
Volunteers: 2,008
Volunteer Hours: 206,691
Donations: $2,092,238.41