

Date: December 3, 2020

From: Assistant Under Secretary for Health for Patient Care Services/Chief Nursing Officer (12)

Subj: Request for Applications (RFA) for Expanding and Enhancing Connected Care/ Telehealth Workforce (VIEWS 3960933)

To: Veterans Integrated Service Network (VISN) Directors (10N1-23)

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to notify VISNs that funding is available for VISN connected care workforce expansion and equipment acquisition. The funding is being made available to help VISNs achieve objectives in VA Connected Care Strategic Operating Plan (Attachment A)

2. VISNs may request three-year funding fiscal year (FY) 2021 - 2023 to expand their connected care workforce (i.e., Telehealth Clinical Technicians), in accordance with the amounts and guidance listed in Attachment B. Workforce funding requests are due by December 15, 2020.

NOTE: VISNs will be responsible for the ongoing cost of their positions following FY 2023.

3. VISNs may also request connected care equipment in accordance with the process outlined in Attachment C that will be procured by the Office of Connected Care, on behalf of the VISN, for this initiative. Equipment requests are due by January 15, 2021.

NOTE: 1) Funds for connected care equipment will be in addition to the workforce funding available to each VISN outlined in attachment B, and the Office of Connected Care will purchase the approved equipment requests. 2) The Office of Connected Care will fund future year maintenance and warranty costs.

4. The Office of Connected Care will hold weekly Office Hours between December 1- December 31, 2020, to answer questions about this memorandum and/or the connected care strategy. Invitations will be sent to the VISN Telehealth Managers and My HealthVet Coordinators.

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5. For additional questions about this memo and funding opportunity, please contact Sara DeRycke, Asynchronous Telehealth Lead Services at Sara.Derycke@va.gov, or Dr. Kevin Galpin, Executive Director, Telehealth Services, at Kevin.Galpin@va.gov. For questions related to My Health@Vet or Connected Health positions, Ms. Theresa Hancock, Director, My Health@Vet, at Theresa.Hancock@va.gov.

Beth A. Taylor
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Attachments