



Department of Veterans Affairs

Soldiers & Sailors Bldg
425 E Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501
Phone 605.773.3269
Fax 605.773.5380

DATE: January 12, 2017

TO: Senator Larry Tidemann, Chair Joint Appropriations Committee
Representative David Anderson, Vice Chair Joint Appropriations Committee
Joint Appropriations Committee Members

FROM: Larry Zimmerman, SDDVA Secretary

SUBJECT: Status Report on Michael J. Fitzmaurice State Veterans Home

Total federal grant award is \$23.6 Million. Total expended through December 30, 2016, is \$22.1 Million.

We recently put out an RFP for design, bid, and construction for the new shop building on campus. This project was included in the original design for the Home, This will be done with current funds with an estimated cost of \$750,000. We estimate completion date of April 2018.

As you know, we moved our heroes into the new building on January 13, 2016. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs conducted our accreditation survey on March 22-24. They approved/certified the 52 nursing beds that we had at that time. The overall rating was excellent with no deficiencies. The VA will be returning January 17-19 to certify / approve the 24 new nursing beds that were added by legislative action last year. The survey process will encompass the entire building and not just the two households that were revised to nursing beds. This certification is required to receive VA funding for our veterans.

As always, we appreciate the support you have provided for this project and we will continue to update you quarterly, until we have zeroed out the account.

For those of you that weren't able to join us for lunch and a briefing on November 30, we are sharing a link with you to view of a walk through tour of the home.

<http://vetaffairs.sd.gov/veteranshome/Features.aspx>

cc: Marty Guindon, Auditor General
Liza Clark, Bureau of Finance and Management

