



## Department of Veterans Affairs

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**DATE:** April 19, 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 March 31, 2017, is \$22.7 Million.

A bid has been awarded to Baffuto Architectura from Rapid City for the design of the new shop building at the Home.

You will recall that the United States Department of Veterans Affairs conducted our accreditation survey in March of 2016, and approved/certified the 52 nursing beds that we had at that time. The overall rating was excellent with no deficiencies. The VA returned in February of 2017 to certify / approve the 24 new nursing beds that were added by legislative action last year. The survey process encompassed the entire building. We are pleased to report that we again received a ZERO deficiency!

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.

Google visited the Home and developed a Google photos tour for us and we would encourage you to visit our website ([vetaffairs.sd.gov](http://vetaffairs.sd.gov)), click on Veterans Home and then click on features. There you will see five choices – town square, campus, home, residential rooms, and neighborhood). On the right lower hand is an arrow where you can rotate the photo and get a full view.

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

