



## DEPARTMENT OF NEW MEXICO MARINE CORPS LEAGUE

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### FROM THE COMMANDANT:

Laurel Hull

I'm the VAVS representative for the Women Marines Association. These are some of my notes from the quarterly meeting held 13 July. *Laurel Hull*

The VA Medical Center is hiring a new Assistant Director and a new Nurse Executive. If you've been to the Albuquerque VA lately you'll have seen the progress on the solar panels in the parking structures. We have covered parking and the VA will get solar power. Talk about win-win. The trailer behind Building 1 that houses the union and several Veteran Service Organizations was put in as a "temporary structure 35 years ago. It is being torn down to make way for 2 new mental health buildings. While the tear down and construction is going on, the VAVS office will go to the 3rd floor of Building 1 and the union will take over the current VAVS office spaces. Eventually, VAVS will occupy the first floor of the new building and mental health will be on the second floor of it. Also the front desk and coffee area will be undergoing a renovation in the next 3 months.

In Community Based Outpatient Clinics, Las Vegas and Espanola held their Grand Openings earlier this month and Taos is on schedule to open later this year.

For those on the West Side of Albuquerque, the Northwest Metro CBOC will be opening in the near future. It will be located across from Intel in Rio Rancho. It will be working on a Patient Aligned Care Team or PACT model. This will include a Physician, a Registered Nurse, a Licensed Practical Nurse and a Patient Services member. They will initially have 4 Primary Care Physicians to handle some 5 thousand veterans, with a primary care clinic, radiology, a lab for blood work, an eye clinic, a dental clinic and behavioral health. And they are rolling out the red carpet for women veterans!

### VAVS Needs:

- Comfort items: shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, razors, combs, lotion, deodorant and body wash both large and small.
- Clothing items: underwear (boxers and briefs) white socks, t-shirts of all sizes. Both men's and women's clothing is accepted but it must be appropriate for the current season.

- Food for veterans in the HUD/VASH Program must be ready to eat and easily accessible as many of these Veterans are homeless and don't have the means to open cans or prepare meals. They're looking for things like canned meats, peanut butter, crackers, canned fruit, canned vegetables, granola bars. Food items must not be outdated.
- If you have old books to donate to the VA, please make sure they are paperbacks only

Thank you for all your support and Semper Fi.

Department of New Mexico MCL  
Commandant  
Laurel Hull



**“ONCE A MARINE ALWAYS A MARINE”**

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