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VNA Health Care Celebrates National Health Center Week, Building Innovative Care Where It Matters Most

Nonprofit health system marks nearly 90,000 patients served annually across 15 Chicago-area locations

AURORA, IL. — VNA Health Care is joining community health centers across the country in celebrating National Health Center Week, August 2-8, 2026, an annual observance led by the National Association of Community Health Centers (NACHC) that recognizes the vital role health centers play in providing accessible, high-quality care to underserved communities. This year's theme, "Building Innovative Care Where It Matters Most," highlights the creative and community-driven ways health centers are meeting patients' needs.

For VNA Health Care, innovation means finding new ways to reach patients, remove barriers to care, and connect services across the full spectrum of health needs. VNA serves nearly 90,000 patients through 15 health center locations across the Chicagoland area, offering expanded access through school-linked health centers, pharmacies, immediate care, telehealth, home-based programs, and other strategies. These patients reflect the communities most in need of accessible care: 98% are low income and 87% identify as an ethnic or racial minority. VNA has locations in Aurora, Bensenville, Bolingbrook, Carol Stream, Elgin, Joliet, Romeoville, Villa Park and Wheaton, and is continuing its expansion across the Chicago suburbs.

This week, VNA is highlighting three ways it's putting innovation into practice:

Meeting patients where they are. By bringing care directly into schools, neighborhoods, and homes — and connecting patients virtually when an in-person visit isn't possible — VNA reduces everyday obstacles such as transportation, scheduling, and distance that can keep people from getting the care they need. This past year, VNA's Home-Based Services and Healthy Families programs made thousands of visits to patients in their homes, its three school-linked health centers served students in convenient locations at or near their school, and virtual visits gave patients another way to connect with care from wherever they are.

Integrating care. VNA connects medical care, mental and behavioral health, immediate care, pharmacy, and other services, including podiatry, nutrition counseling, outpatient physical therapy, and prenatal ultrasound, so patients can address multiple needs in a single visit or through coordinated referrals, supporting whole-person health. This past year, VNA delivered babies, provided psychiatry and counseling, and performed mammograms, and VNA physicians made thousands of hospital visits to care for patients beyond the health center walls.

Reducing barriers. Whether helping patients enroll in health coverage, providing discounted medications, offering language assistance, or expanding evening and weekend access for critical services, VNA continually develops new ways to improve access — work that is especially important during a period of significant Medicaid and insurance coverage changes. This past year, VNA's Benefits Assistance program completed

thousands of consults helping patients navigate coverage, and VNA filled tens of thousands of discounted pharmacy prescriptions, helping patients afford the medications they need.

Patients can [make appointments online](#) 24/7 or by calling 630-892-4355.

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About VNA Health Care

VNA Health Care is the largest Community Health Center (also known as a Federally Qualified Health Center) in the Chicago suburbs. VNA provides comprehensive primary care, home care, and health and wellness programs to nearly 90,000 patients annually and has served people regardless of insurance status or ability to pay for more than 100 years. VNA strives to improve the standard of health for all with high-quality, accessible, and compassionate care delivered in VNA health centers, community settings, and patient homes. To learn more, visit www.vnahealth.com.