

May 28, 2013

Dear Friends:

Today, it is my pleasure to celebrate two exciting developments at the Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center: the groundbreaking of the Washington State Veterans Home and the newly completed Residential Rehabilitation Unit. I would like to recognize the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center, State Senator Hewitt, and the WA State Legislature for unparalleled advocacy to create new facilities to serve the veterans of Walla Walla and the surrounding areas. I would also like to thank the Nez Perce, Yakima, Warm Springs Tribes, and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, for all of your hard-work and collaboration in organizing and performing the traditional Native American blessing on this ground.

Since 1921, the Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VAMC has strived to provide outstanding services to the nearly 30,000 veterans that it serves. Both the new State Veterans Home and the Residential Rehabilitation Unit affirm this particular Medical Center's dedication to the mission of serving those who have served. The new WA State Veterans Home will enhance resources to meet the needs of Walla Walla's senior veterans. This Residential Rehabilitation Unit not only replaces the original building constructed in 1972, but improves the accessibility and efficiency of existing resources, and contains 36 beds to provide substance abuse treatment to veterans.

I am proud to be a partner in both of these projects and pleased that I helped secure the federal funding to support the construction of both the Residential Rehabilitation Unit and the State Veterans Home. It is with many thanks to hardworking community leaders, activists and veterans, utilizing federal, state and community resources, that these projects are possible.

Thank you for all of your hard work and dedication to those who have so honorably served our country. I look forward to our continued collaboration to provide efficient and effective services to our nation's veterans.

Sincerely,

A large, bold, black letter 'A' that serves as a signature.

Patty Murray
United States Senator