



FUTURE - DENVER VA MEDICAL CENTER - AURORA, COLORADO

# PROJECT EAGLE UPDATE

*April, 2010*

Last month, the VA Eastern Colorado Health Care System Director and two of the Project Eagle Team members traveled to Orlando to meet with other VA teams who are building large hospitals. Orlando, Las Vegas, Salisbury (NC), and Denver exchanged ideas and information about the challenges of undertaking such a large endeavor. While there has been an informal email group for several years set up by the Project Eagle Coordinator to share ideas and exchange helpful hints, this meeting provided a new level of communication and collaboration for major VA construction projects.

The main focus of the meeting was to review and generate ideas and processes for the activation of new facilities. Activation refers to equipping, furnishing and moving into a new facility.

The Project Director from Columbus, Ohio shared his experience in activating their 290,000 square foot Health Care Center. This facility is essentially a large outpatient clinic with ambulatory surgery capability. The Project Director from Las Vegas also shared his ideas and processes that he has used to date to get ready for the activation of their new hospital. Denver is fortunate to be an established tertiary care facility with inpatient capabilities, removing the challenge of building those new processes into the new facility.

In follow up to the meeting, a national formal mail group has been set up and a share point has been developed to share ideas, templates, costs, etc. The current project members from all facilities will be able to upload information to the site so that others nationally will be able to read and learn from the experiences to date. This is a work in progress and we are very excited about being a part of this grass roots effort to learn best practices from one another.

I hope you are finding the Project Eagle Updates helpful and enlightening. I am always willing to hear ideas from you about future topics or aspects of the project that you are curious about. Please feel free to send your questions or ideas to [jordan.schupbach@va.gov](mailto:jordan.schupbach@va.gov).

Respectfully,

Jordan Schupbach  
Public Affairs Officer  
VA ECHCS

