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## News Release

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**For Immediate Release**

**DATE: Tuesday, January 26, 2010**

### **Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom Outreach Clinic at Fort Indiantown Gap**

On January 29, 2010, Lebanon VA Medical Center, in continued partnership with Fort Indiantown Gap (FTIG), will open a VA Operation Enduring Freedom/Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) Outreach Clinic at FTIG. The Outreach Clinic will eliminate travel time for Pennsylvania's rural OEF/OIF Veterans by providing health care services concurrent with their tour of duty at FTIG. "The main objective of this clinic is to increase accessibility and visibility of VA services for our Pennsylvania National Guardsman that served in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Robert Callahan, Jr., Director, Lebanon VA Medical Center.

Lebanon VA Medical Center will be sharing space with the FTIG Medical Clinic. It will operate 2 days per week and be supported by five new VA employees, which include a primary care provider, social worker, enrollment specialist, and nurses. Veterans will be able to enroll at the Outreach Clinic, receive their initial health screening and receive primary care and social work services.

"Lebanon VA wants to ensure that all OEF/OIF Veterans are well informed of their VA health care benefits, including their ability to access 5 years of VA health care benefits for any possible deployment-related injury or illness, along with a number of other services upon their return home," said Gretchen Roberts, OEF/OIF Program Manager, Lebanon VA Medical Center.

To date, approximately 4,000 "new Veterans" from the Pennsylvania National Guard have served in Iraq and Afghanistan and over 97,000 soldiers passed through FTIG as part of their annual training in 2009. Many are eligible for VA health care and Lebanon VA Medical Center is ready to provide care for all who enroll.

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