

VAU.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Press Release

Office of Public Affairs
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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Camp Fire: VA Clinics in Chico, Yuba City reopen to assist Veterans

24/7 VETERAN CALL CENTER: 1-800-382-8387
Veteran Benefits helpline: 1-800-827-1000

CHICO, Calif. – [VA Northern California Health Care System](#) (VA NorCal) clinics in [Chico](#) and [Yuba City](#) reopened Tuesday with full staffing and a full range of patient services to assist Veterans impacted by the nearby Camp Fire. As of Tuesday morning, the Camp Fire had grown to more than 125,000 acres with 30 percent containment, having claimed 42 lives. Several hundred Veterans are estimated to have evacuated from the fire, each of whom the VA NorCal Call Center is attempting to contact to provide health care and resources assistance.

“Nearly half of VA NorCal employees are military Veterans, and it’s shown in our swift response to the Camp Fire,” said Dr. Regina Godbout, VA NorCal deputy chief of staff. “As expected, Veterans began pouring into our Chico and Yuba City clinics this morning, which is why we spent the weekend deploying resources and personnel to our clinics and nearby shelters.”

Over the Veterans Day weekend, VA NorCal deployed [Mobile Vet Centers](#), nursing and social work evacuation teams, pharmacy representatives, and [Dual-Use Vehicles](#) to its clinics and evacuation shelters to provide health care and emergency support to Veterans. The Chico VA clinic has also begun offering telehealth services, where Veterans can conduct an appointment with a VA doctor or other provider through a smartphone, tablet, or computer.

To ensure air quality inside its clinics, VA NorCal has placed HEPA filters across its facilities in Chico, Yuba City, and the East Bay. HEPA air purifiers force a clinic’s interior air through a fine mesh, preventing Veterans and staff from breathing in harmful particles. VA NorCal also transported air-filtration masks to its clinics for distribution to staff and Veterans.

Media seeking information about VA NorCal’s response to the Camp Fire should contact Will Martin, Chief of Public Affairs, at 916-365-1509 or William.Martin6@va.gov.

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