

Date: January 30, 2019

From: Chief Research and Development Officer (10X2)

Subj: **National VA Research Week, May 13-17, 2019**

To: Associate Chiefs of Staff for Research and Development
Administrative Officers for Research and Development
Research Week Coordinators

1. I am very excited to announce this year's research week as **May 13-17, 2019**, with the theme **'The Science of Hope.'** It was truly an inspiration to see last year's research week activities at more than half of the VA research offices. Medical centers and research staff successfully showcased some of VA's most magnificent and extraordinary research achievements and innovations, both past and current. The dynamic collaborations that VA researchers have with universities, nonprofit organizations, and other federal and non-federal partners continuously contribute to scientific discoveries and medical advancements.

2. In order to continue to support your activities this year, I would love to hear about your 2019 Research Week plans as soon as possible. Requests for ORD guest speakers can be sent along with your plans to christine.amereihn@va.gov. Please use the *VAMC Summary of Plans* form available on VA Research Week website at www.research.va.gov/researchweek. Make sure you include a tentative agenda, place, date, and time for the invite request and submit it NLT March 15, 2019.

3. Additional research week resources can also be found on the above-mentioned website, such as updated logos, graphics, activity guidelines, and news release/media templates. Printed copies of the 2019 research week poster and the research week proclamation will be mailed to each research office by the end of March.

4. As in the past, please remember to include your VA public affairs officers when planning any activities so that national VA research week awareness efforts can be maximized. Positive VA research stories from your extraordinary efforts continue to make strides in a variety of news outlets and social media forums.

5. I commend you on your commitment to conduct research week activities as it is truly a pleasure to see the incredible service you provide to Veterans and their families. Your creativity and participation in research week events is always encouraged and I look forward to hearing about your plans soon.



Rachel Ramoni, DMD, ScD

cc: VA Public Affairs Offices