

# VA opens Charlotte health-care center, expands services for veterans (PHOTOS)

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The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has opened its 295,000-square-foot health-care center in Charlotte.

An opening ceremony and ribbon-cutting event were held Friday to mark the occasion. That six-story building is located on a 35-acre parcel at West Tyvola Road and Cascade Pointe Boulevard.



Hundreds came out to celebrate the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Charlotte Veterans... [more](#)

The medical complex brings state-of-the-art medical care closer to home and expands upon the types of health-care services veterans can receive. The VA is leasing that facility for roughly \$13 million annually over the next 20 years.

It will offer enhanced outpatient care and specialty services, such as cardiology, neurology, dental and oncology for up to 35,000 veterans annually in the Charlotte area.

“You all have earned and you deserve world-class health care every day,” says **Kaye Green**, director of the Salisbury VA Medical Center. “It is a great privilege to take care of veterans who have paved the way for us, who have defended this great nation.”

The center is part of the Salisbury VA Health Care System, which includes the W.G. (Bill) Hefner VA Medical Center and community-based outpatient clinics in Charlotte’s University area, Hickory and Winston-Salem.

Those facilities had nearly 93,000 unique patient visits in fiscal 2015.

**Childress Klein Properties** of Charlotte and Virginia-based Cambridge Development Group teamed up for the project. They formed Childress Klein-Cambridge Healthcare Solutions to design, build and provide facility management for the project.

Contractor JE Dunn broke ground on the Charlotte facility in March 2014.

The Charlotte center is one of seven that were approved for construction in 2010 – and the VA's largest to date.

The new facility is more than four times the size of the current 67,000-square-foot Charlotte Community-Based Outpatient Clinic.

“Increasing access to quality medical care through the Salisbury VA Health Care System has been one of our highest priorities over the past three years, and the opening of the Charlotte Health Care Center is a major milestone in that effort,” Green says.

The University facility will remain open, but plans call for the bulk of its 250 full- and part-time employees to transfer to the new site. Just 43 will remain at the clinic in northeast Charlotte.

There's potential for nearly 700 people to be employed at the new health-care center in the future.

The existing Charlotte facility saw nearly 26,000 unique patients in fiscal 2015 and handled more than 173,000 outpatient visits.

“One of the greatest limitations here in Charlotte has been the space of our existing community outpatient clinic,” Green says.

*Jennifer Thomas covers retail, health care and education for the Charlotte Business Journal.*

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