



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH
WASHINGTON DC 20420
SEP 24 2007

MESSAGE FROM THE UNDER SECRETARY FOR HEALTH

Veterans Canteen Service and HealthierUS Veterans are challenging veterans and VHA staff to walk or roll 100 miles in 100 days" in the "Champions' Challenge." This program is designed to encourage veterans and employees to become more physically active while earning prizes along the way. Participation by each Medical Center will provide an opportunity to focus attention on the health and wellness of both employees and veterans.

During these 100 days, the twelve gold medal winners of the 2007 National Veterans Wheelchair Games will be honored at their local VA medical centers and will sign sports cards with their pictures. Also, in conjunction with the Champions' Challenge, the Veterans Canteen Service (VCS) retail stores will be selling boxes of Cheerios®, developed by General Mills, to salute these extraordinary athletes.

I am requesting your support for this event. As part of this program, VA medical facilities are asked to kickoff the Champions' Challenge with a Veterans Honor Walk-N-Roll in November 2007. Employees and veterans of all fitness and ability levels can join together to walk or roll over a predetermined 1 mile course. Employees that cannot leave their post or cannot be present for any reason may sign up to participate through the MOVE website located at www.move.va.gov.

Thank you very much for your cooperation and assistance.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael J. Kussman". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Michael J. Kussman, MD, MS MACP