

VA Illiana Health Care System Receives Pagers

VA Illiana Health Care System (VAIHCS) received 30 pagers from the Champaign Area United States Bowling Congress (USBC) recently. These pagers will be utilized so Veterans with appointments would be free to go to other areas of the medical center until their appointment time. They would then be paged when they are ready to be seen. Some of the areas that will use the pagers are eligibility and beneficiary travel.

“This will provide a wonderful service for our Veterans and allow them the freedom to go to the Canteen store or other areas of the facility while waiting for their appointment. We appreciate the support of the Champaign Area USBC Association,” says Emma Metcalf, Director at VAIHCS.

The purchase of these pagers was facilitated by a fund raising effort of the Champaign Area USBC. Bowlers from leagues in the Champaign Area USBC contributed over \$2,000 in the fund raising effort. This is an annual event and in the past the moneys were donated to the VA hospital for use in Recreational Therapy equipment. After discussions the Champaign Area USBC decided to do something different. After talking to the VA hospital the idea of the paging system was finalized. Lyla Schmall and Karen Moon spearheaded the fund raising effort in leagues around the Champaign area in February 2012. This may only be the start of this project as future funds can be used to expand the system by purchasing more pagers and base units to help other areas of the hospital.

“The bowlers of Champaign have always been very supportive of the Danville Veterans Hospital. The fact that 100% of the money is staying close to home at a facility that many of our bowlers frequent makes it even better,” says Steve Lawson, Champaign Area USBC Manager.