

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

February 11, 2025

The Honorable Doug Collins  
Secretary  
Department of Veterans Affairs  
810 Vermont Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20420

Dear Secretary Collins,

Congratulations on being confirmed as our nation's Secretary of Veterans Affairs. As you begin your work to uphold the VA's mission to care for our constituent veterans, their families, and their caregivers, we are proud to invite you to join us in touring Michigan's Battle Creek VA Medical Center.


A visit to Battle Creek VAMC would offer you valuable insights into the facility's best practices while also highlighting areas where additional support can enhance veteran care. As you may be familiar with the phrase, *"If you've seen one VA, you've only seen one VA,"* each VA facility has unique strengths and challenges, just as every veteran has individual needs. At Battle Creek, we are eager to share the facility's history, services, and ongoing initiatives while discussing opportunities to strengthen the care provided to our Michigan veterans.


Established in 1924, Battle Creek VAMC serves nearly 45,000 veterans across Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana. The facility is a leader in state-of-the-art, evidence-based, recovery-oriented mental health care. With over 1,900 dedicated employees, Battle Creek provides veterans with comprehensive tertiary psychiatric care, primary and secondary medical care, and extended and long-term care.

Given the December 2024 announcement that the Electronic Health Record (EHR) rollout will resume in mid-2026 at four VA facilities in Michigan—Ann Arbor, Battle Creek, Detroit, and Saginaw—we stand ready to welcome you in Battle Creek at your earliest convenience to see this facility and all the opportunities for veteran-focused success it has to offer. Please let us know a time that would be convenient for your visit. Thank you for your leadership and commitment to our nation's veterans.

Sincerely,

  
Bill Huizenga  
Member of Congress

  
Tim Walberg  
Member of Congress

  
Tom Barrett  
Member of Congress