



**VA Health Care Upstate New York  
VA Western New York Healthcare System**  
3495 Bailey Avenue | Buffalo, NY 14215  
222 Richmond Avenue | Batavia, NY 14020  
[www.buffalo.va.gov](http://www.buffalo.va.gov)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**National Health Care Decisions Day at VA Western New York Healthcare System Set**

VA Western New York Healthcare System (VAWNYHS), along with other national, state and community organizations, is leading a massive effort to highlight the importance of advance health care decision-making—an effort that has culminated in the formal designation of April 16 as National Healthcare Decisions Day (NHDD). As a participating organization, VAWNYHS is providing information and tools for the public to talk about their wishes with family, friends and health care providers, and execute written advance directives (health care power of attorney and living will) in accordance with New York state laws. These resources are available at [www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org](http://www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org).

Specifically, on April 16, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., VAWNYHS (front lobby), 3495 Bailey Avenue, Buffalo, N.Y. we will be welcoming the public to obtain free information about advance care planning and advance directive forms.

“As a result of National Health Care Decisions Day, many more people in our community can be expected to have thoughtful conversations about their health care decisions and complete reliable advance directives to make their wishes known,” said Kimberly Kwietniewski, Geriatrics and Extended Care Line Manager. “Fewer families and health care providers will have to struggle with making difficult health care decisions in the absence of guidance from the patient, and health care providers and facilities will be better equipped to address advance health care planning issues before a crisis and be better able to honor patient wishes when the time comes to do so.”

For more information about National Health Care Decision Day, please visit [www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org](http://www.nationalhealthcaredecisionsday.org).

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