

PRESS RELEASE: 24-08

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Bay Pines VA Healthcare System
10000 Bay Pines Blvd.
Bay Pines, Fla. 33744
Phone: 727-317-8120
Email: VHABAYPublicAffairs@va.gov

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Veterans Health Administration
Bay Pines VA Healthcare System

RELEASE DATE:

IMMEDIATELY | Nov. 8, 2023

Community provides housewarming gifts for Bay Pines VA Veterans

BAY PINES, Fla. – Bay Pines VA Healthcare System leaders accepted a donation of housewarming gifts for Veterans placed in permanent housing during an official presentation at C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center, Nov. 6.

The donation of 50 baskets was presented by the American Red Cross and members of the Suncoast Credit Union’s Alliance for Leadership and Unification of Troops and Employees (SALUTE) team.

Each of the 50 baskets includes a starter kit of needed items such as blankets, detergent, dish soap and other cleaning supplies Veterans need as they move into their new homes.

“We’re honored that organizations like the American Red Cross and Suncoast Credit Union have partnered to help set Veterans up for success,” said Bay Pines VA Healthcare System Deputy Director Kristine Brown. “Helping Veterans achieve permanent housing remains a top priority for our organization, and these welcome baskets reflect another example of the support Veterans receive from across our amazing communities.”

In 2022, Bay Pines VA helped the Department of Veteran’s Affairs surpass the national goal of permanently housing 38,000 Veterans, with support to 638 local Veterans, and throughout 2023, the organization has maintained their success, with 671 Veterans housed through the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing program.

“I’m honored to be part of an organization that helps Veterans,” said Gregory Scrivens, regional director for Service to the Armed Forces and International Services American Red Cross. “These donations are just one of the ways the American Red Cross supports our Veteran community.”

For additional information on this event or future coverage opportunities: Contact Bay Pines VA Healthcare System’s Public Affairs Officer Rob Frazier at Robert.Frazier1@va.gov or 727-317-8120. See the latest news, stories, and Veteran health care information available on our official [website](#) or official [social media accounts](#).

– 30 –

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
Veterans Health Administration
Bay Pines VA Healthcare System



Bay Pines VA Healthcare Systems HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Coordinator Lori Iraheta-Yem (center right) accepts a donation basket from Suncoast Credit Union’s Senior Community Relations Specialist and SALUTE Co-Chair Janette McElwain at C.W. Bill Young VA Medical Center, Nov. 6. (Photo by Michael Brock, Bay Pines VA Public Affairs Specialist).

