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Veterans clinic opens in Laguna Hills

Community-based clinic seeks to make medical care more accessible.

By **ALEJANDRA MOLINA**

The Orange County Register

LAGUNA HILLS - A new U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Community Outpatient Clinic opened Tuesday.

The clinic will serve veterans with primary care, individual and group counseling, post-traumatic stress disorder, smoking, weight control and grief counseling services.

"We're hoping that veterans take advantage of it," said Chris Matson, vice president of veterans outreach with Valor Healthcare Inc., which operates the clinics.

Matson hopes to spread the word to both the older and younger veterans.

"When they come off active duty they go back to their civilian jobs ... because they're not in a military post, they are often off to themselves," he said.

The clinic has three or four physicians and a staff of nurses to support them, Matson said. As the clinic grows, more staff will be added.

Matson said veterans should stop by the clinic or call to make an appointment to determine their eligibility.

Community Outpatient Clinic

Location: 25292 McIntyre St., Laguna Hills

Hours: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday

Information: 1-800-310-5001

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