



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For More Information

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## **Syracuse VA Program Fair** **Focus on Technology**

### **Event Included Presentation by Colonel Gregory, USA, (Ret.)**

**Syracuse, NY-** More than 600 staff, patients and guests attended the Syracuse VA Medical Center's annual all day "Program Fair" in the Medical Center Auditorium on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. The focus of the event was technology and how it has transformed patient care.

Some thirty departments, care lines, services and programs within the Medical Center hosted displays featuring the latest technological innovations and developments in their areas of expertise. These displays included information on clinical, nonclinical, safety, education and other services designed to take care of our Veterans.

Retired US Army Colonel Gregory Gadson was a featured speaker at the event. A West Point graduate, Colonel Gadson became one of the first soldiers fitted with the next generation powered prosthetics after losing both legs when his vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive device in Iraq. Colonel Gadson requested to stay on duty rather than retire after recovering from his injury and became the Director of the Army Wounded Warrior program and Garrison Commander of Fort Belvoir before his retirement.

Gadson spoke about his stages of physical and emotional health since May of 2007 when he was injured. He praised all those who helped him overcome and persevere. He thanked all the health care providers who cared for him and all the others whose lives have been changed by traumatic battlefield injuries. "What you do is really about putting lives back together. It's all about restoring hope," said Gadson.