

Vets Views 4 Jun 08 draft

Here's a subject that is sort of tough to talk about, but it can be very important to many of you, so here goes. The *state* has several very nice veterans homes, these are modern, well-run (I can't speak for the one in Mpls, but the rest are doing fine) facilities that have a distinct financial advantage if your loved one should need to be in a nursing home and you don't mind driving a bit to visit. For example, the Minnesota Veterans Home in Silver Bay is located on the scenic North Shore overlooking Lake Superior and feedback from families of veterans there is that it is a well-run outfit.

Opened in 1991, it is home to 87 veterans and some spouses, including 25 special care unit residents. They provide traditional skilled nursing services with the addition of enhanced recreation therapy, chaplaincy, pharmaceutical, and physician access, medical transportation and assistance in applying for VA benefits. The home's special care unit focuses on the unique environmental and program needs of residents with dementia. The resident-centered care model focuses on the individual needs and wishes of each resident, a very personalized approach to care. Some available activities include: ice fishing, pontoon boat rides, fishing contests, and an annual Lake Superior charter fishing trip and shore lunch. Please call toll free 1(877) 729-8387 if you'd like more info about the Minnesota Veterans Home in Silver Bay.

I do have some brochures in the office and you can certainly call me or stop in as well. There's another home in our area too, it's in Fergus Falls and is also very highly thought of, but tends to have a longer waiting list. For any of these homes, you can expect placement in roughly 3-6 months after applying. Something to think about.

Over and Out!