### WHAT IS PRIVATIZATION OF THE VA?

Privatization is the outsourcing of Veteran's care to the private healthcare market. Over the last few years efforts to privatize and ultimately dismantle the VA Healthcare system have gained momentum. Programs such as "Veteran's Choice" are taking funds away from the VA while delivering inferior service and scheduling. Just the thing it was supposed to fix!

### WHY PRIVATIZE THE VA? WHO BENEFITS?

The VA budget for 2017 was over \$180 billion dollars. That amount of money gets the vultures circling and private healthcare companies salivating. The VA healthcare system is a model of a universal healthcare system that is working now in our country. This terrifies the healthcare industry.

## WHO WANTS TO PRIVATIZE THE VA HEALTHCARE?

The efforts are led by the Koch brothers and their fake veterans group "Concerned Veterans for America" (CVA) with the backing of the same Republican House and Senate members that are trying to dismantle Medicare and Obamacare.

## **FACTS OF VA HEALTHCARE:**

The VA serves over 8.9 million Veterans. It has the trained doctors and nurses to work with unique sets of injuries and disabilities caused by the traumas of war. When polled this year 80% of veterans favored VA healthcare over private healthcare. The VA in 2017 has a budget shortfall of over \$19 billion dollars and a freeze on the requested hiring of 48,000 staff. It is readily agreed that the private sector healthcare could not stand up to the level of scrutiny and performance that is demanded of the VA Healthcare system. Veterans Service Organizations such as VFW, Am Vets, Paralyzed Veterans of America and DAV, just to name a few, have expressed concern about VA privatization and like us demand the VA be fixed, fully funded and fully staffed. We need to expand the VA healthcare system not dismantle it.

# **SAVE THE VA**



# Veterans Say NO to Privatization



www.ffvhc.org www.veteransforpeace.org

# What YOU Can Do to Help Fix, Fund & Fully Staff the VA

- 1. Call your US representative & senators tell them Fill the 49,000 vacancies, fully fund, and don't privatize the VA!
  - Call 1.833.480.1637 enter your zip code and you will be connected to your congressional office. Please leave a message for your US House representative and then call two more times and leave a message for your US Senators.
  - House Representative: Hello this is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am a veteran who lives in \_\_\_\_. I'm calling to ask you to fill the 49,000 vacancies at the VA. Please do NOT privatize the VA. Fully fund the VA in the 2018 budget. I urge you to support HR 3459. Thank you!
  - US Senators: Hello this is \_\_\_\_ and I am a veteran who lives in \_\_\_\_. I'm calling to urge you to fill the 49,000 vacancies at the VA. Please do NOT privatize the VA. Fully fund the VA in the 2018 budget. I urge you to support S. 1723. Thank you!

The above telephone number and congressional contact system is sponsored by the American Federation of Government Workers (AFGE). This union represents over 220,000 VA workers and the VFP Work Group works with their members and staff.

- 2. Sign this petition to the President & Congress.
- **3.** If you would like to join the "Stop VA Privatization, Fix, Fund and Fully Staff the VA" please email Buzz Davis at <a href="mailto:dbuzzdavis@aol.com">dbuzzdavis@aol.com</a> or call 608-239-5354.
- 4. Check out: Fighting for Veterans Healthcare (FFVHC)
  - Located in San Francisco this group of vets, nurses and others fights back!
     Their website has great information on the situation we face & what the solutions are to fixing, funding and fully staffing the VA. https://ffvhc.org/ or E-mail: info@ffvhc.org