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Dear Colleagues and Friends,

On Friday, December 11, 2009 at 10:30 a.m., the Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center (MEDVAMC) will hold its annual Minority Veterans Program Holiday Reception and Open House. I would like to invite you and your staff to join us on this momentous occasion.

The event will take place in the 4th Floor Auditorium at the MEDVAMC. This year's theme, "*One Team – One Fight: Success through Cultural Diversity*," will highlight the accomplishments of the Minority Veterans Program Committee and feature our special emphasis programs as well.

The Minority Veterans Program Committee (MVPC), comprised of volunteers from each Care and Service Line is devoted to education, research, community outreach, and eliminating health disparities. The Annual Open House and Holiday Reception is particularly significant because it allows the various veterans service organizations, the Houston VA Regional Office, the VA outpatient clinics, community volunteers, and educational institutions to showcase and promote their services and benefits. The MVPC would be honored by your presence at this important VA activity.

More than 900 patients, staff, and community volunteers attended last year's Open House and Reception where former National League Baseball player James Rodney Richard was the featured guest. We anticipate an equal or greater number of participants at this year's event.

To confirm your attendance, please contact me no later than close of business on November 20, 2009, telling me how you would like your name to appear on the program and the number of complimentary tables and chairs you require.

I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

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