



Colorado State Veterans Home at Rifle
851 East 5th Street, Rifle, CO 81650
970.625.0842 or 800.828.4580
e-mail: veteranshome.rifle@state.co.us

Open letter to citizens concerned about the State Veterans Home at Rifle:

You may have seen recent news stories claiming that the State Veterans Home at Rifle could be forced to close. The Colorado Department of Human Services, which operates the State Veterans Home at Rifle, assures you that this is not the case. The Department has no intention — now or in the future — of closing the State Veterans Home at Rifle.

While our Home has had some financial losses and administrative challenges over the past two years, changes have been made in our operations, resulting in a profit for the first quarter of this fiscal year. In addition, the State Veterans Home at Rifle is one of four state veterans homes in Colorado that share financial resources within an annual operating budget of approximately \$50 million. These “pooled” resources allow income from one state veterans home to offset shortfalls from another state veterans home, providing financial stability for all four state veterans homes operated by the Department.

In addition, our Home has many recent successes and plans for improvements:

- The State Veterans Home at Rifle won “Excellence in Action” awards in 2007 and 2009 for combined family and resident satisfaction results that were in the top 10 percent of 5,000-plus facilities surveyed nationally by an independent research firm.
- Recent facility improvements have included creating renovated bathing areas, new bedroom furniture for many residents, library improvements and a new aviary, Serenity Room and ice cream parlor. Additional remodeling is planned for the secure “memory care” neighborhood, dining room, nurses’ station, activities areas, courtyard and life safety/nurse call systems, with plans to create a Main Street area with a beauty shop, library, ice cream parlor and other resident services.

Again, please rest assured that the State Veterans Home at Rifle is here for our veterans, their spouses and Gold Star parents — now and in the future. If we can serve you in any way, please contact us at 970.625.0842 or 800.828.4580. We welcome your visits any time!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Paul D. Crook'.

Paul D. Crook
Nursing Home Administrator,
Colorado State Veterans Home at Rifle