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Press Release

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Martinez VA Clinic wins national award for environmental sustainability

Award marks Martinez clinic's second environmental honor in 2019

MARTINEZ, Calif. — [Practice Greenhealth](#), the nation's leading organization dedicated to environmental sustainability in health care, announced this week that [Martinez VA Outpatient Clinic](#) has been honored with its Partner for Change Award. The award is the second environmental recognition in 2019 for the clinic, which received the [Eco Award from the City of Martinez](#) in January.

"Sustainability is central to providing high-quality health care to Veterans, so we're especially proud that our efforts have earned us a national environmental award," said Tim Graham, Associate Director for the East Bay Division of [VA Northern California Health Care System](#). "It speaks to our commitment to providing Veterans a healthy, home-like environment."

The Partner for Change Award recognizes health care facilities with a track record of eliminating mercury and reducing and recycling waste. Winning facilities must demonstrate they are recycling at least 15 percent of their total waste, have reduced regulated medical waste, are on track to eliminate mercury, and have developed multiple successful sustainability programs.

"As more and more hospitals embed sustainability into their operations, the bar for environmental excellence increases every year," said Gary Cohen, president of Practice Greenhealth. "The Martinez VA Outpatient Clinic demonstrates the kind of leadership, innovation, and performance that can drive the entire health sector toward more environmentally responsible practices."

Credentialed media seeking further information about the Partner for Change Award or VA NorCal's environmental efforts should contact Will Martin, VA NorCal Chief of Public Affairs, at 916-843-9247, William.Martin6@va.gov, or via Twitter at www.twitter/wmartin89.

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