VAi2 US DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
INNOVATION INITIATIVE

Presentation to the
VA Network Directors
Launch of the 2011
Employee Innovation Competition

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About VAi2 & the VHA Innovation Program

- The VA Innovation Initiative (VAi2) is a flagship program designed to tap the talent and expertise of individuals both inside and outside government to contribute new ideas that ultimately produce new, innovative solutions that advance VA's ability to meet the challenges of becoming a 21st-century organization.

- The mission of the VHA Innovation Program is to facilitate medical services Innovations that support the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) in its transformation to an organization that is Veteran-centric, results-driven, and forward-looking. Innovations are focused on quality, safety, efficiency, and transparency for Veterans. These Innovations will have pilot approaches and methods that can be staged in an initial clinical demonstration area. Successful innovations are accelerated to the 'high bar' VA enterprise to be made available nationally.

- VHA Innovation Program Portfolios:
  - Laboratory
  - Strategic
  - ***Grassroots***

Launch of the 2011 VHA Employee Innovation Competition

- Open to all VA employees and contractors

- Get a head start by previewing the idea submission portal: http://go.va.gov/vfen

- Encourage supervisors to foster the innovative spirit!

  – Participants are encouraged to think creatively about how we can accelerate the transformation of VA to an organization that is Veteran-centric, results-driven, and forward-looking.

7 New Categories This Year

- Patient Allied Care Team (PACT)

- Medical and Surgical Specialty

- Mental Health Specialty

- Veteran Homelessness

- Access
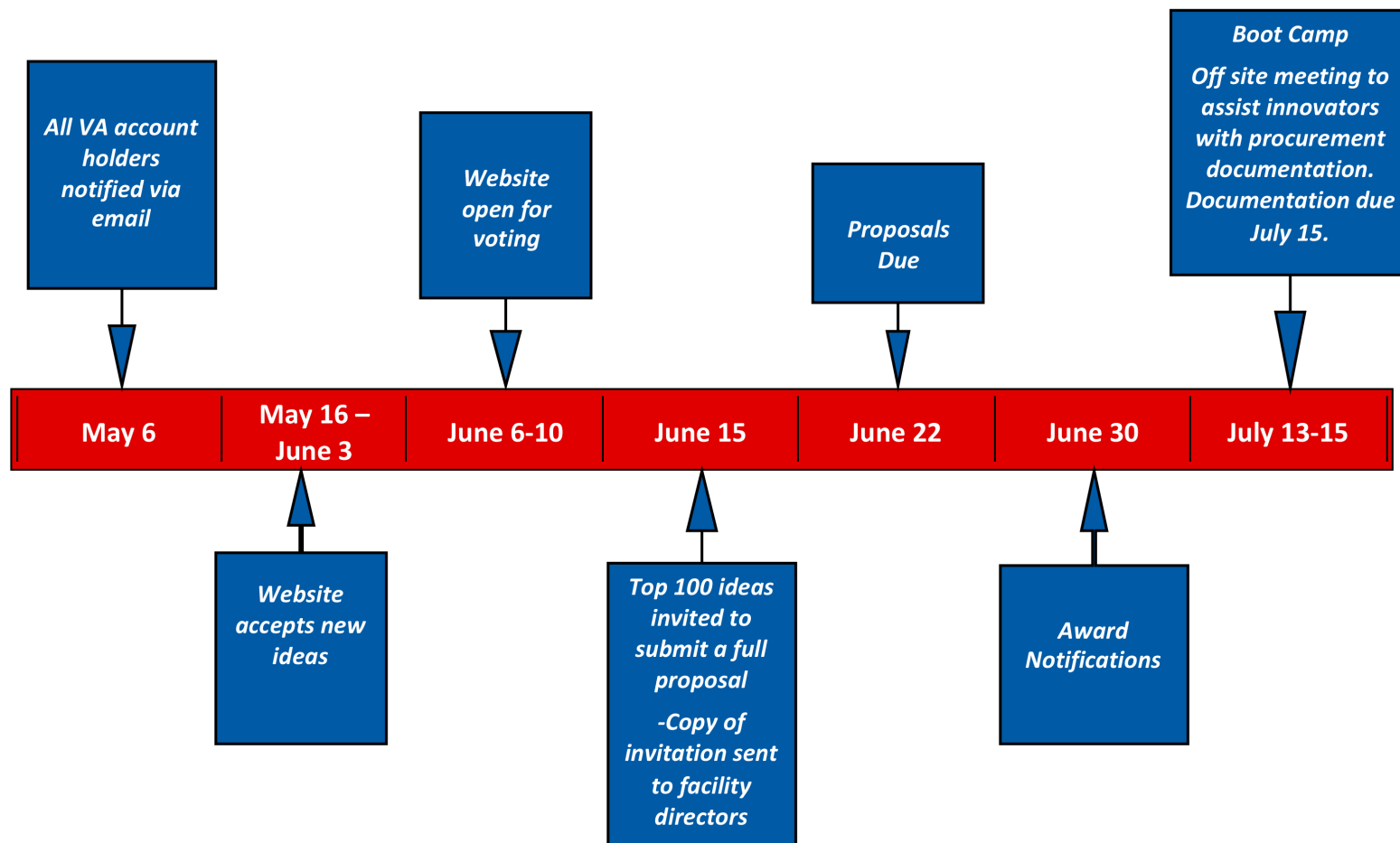
- System Redesign

- Administrative

Judging Criteria Favor Bold Ideas That Enable Your Work

- Improve patient care

  - Safety, quality, access

- Improve efficiency

  - Clinical workflow, cost/benefit, cost avoidance

- Affect numerous Veterans, staff, or other stakeholders

- Address an unmet need rather than incrementally improve existing methods

- Help meet an organizational requirement

  - The Joint Commission or Congressional mandate

Aggressive Timeline Improves Likelihood of Awards this Year

Boot Camp

Off site meeting to assist innovators with procurement documentation. Documentation due July 15.

All VA account holders notified via email

Website open for voting

Proposals Due

May 6	May 16 – June 3	June 6-10	June 15	June 22	June 30	July 13-15

Website accepts new ideas

Top 100 ideas invited to submit a full proposal

-Copy of invitation sent to facility directors

Award Notifications

A Role for VHA Network Leadership

• Instill the creative spirit in all employees to use this opportunity and submit their innovative ideas in the competition

• Foster their innovation idea during the competition and support locally if selected

• Consider hosting a VAi2 industry competition winner at the facility level