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NEWS RELEASE

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NCC Health Information Technology Students Take Part in “Valentines for Veterans” Program

For over 15 years, the Health Information Technology Club at Northwest Iowa Community College has participated in the "Valentines for Veterans" program. Over 140 handmade valentine cards were sent to the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Sioux Falls, South Dakota again this year. These greetings will be delivered to the hospitalized veterans during the National Salute to Veteran Patients, the week of Valentine's Day 2015.

The Sioux Falls VA Hospital was chosen because of its close proximity, because several HIT students have had relatives treated at this facility, and because of their educational program agreement with NCC which accepts HIT students for internships. In a recent news release about the event, Assistant Secretary for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs Tommy Sowers stated, "I am honored to see citizens and patriots step forward to honor and support one of our nation's greatest assets, the American veteran."

This year the students made an additional 60 Valentine cards to send to Michael Hinkey, who is currently on active-duty with the U.S. Air Force and the brother of one of our current HIT students, and Christopher Collen, an active-duty U.S. Army soldier stationed overseas. Christopher's parents are retired NCC instructors and friends of the HIT instructor. These men were asked to share these Valentines and accompanying treats with their "brothers in arms" in recognition of our gratitude for their past, present, and future service to our country.

Pictured:

(L to R): Kailey Woodard, Stephanie Hinkey, and Raquel Pick.