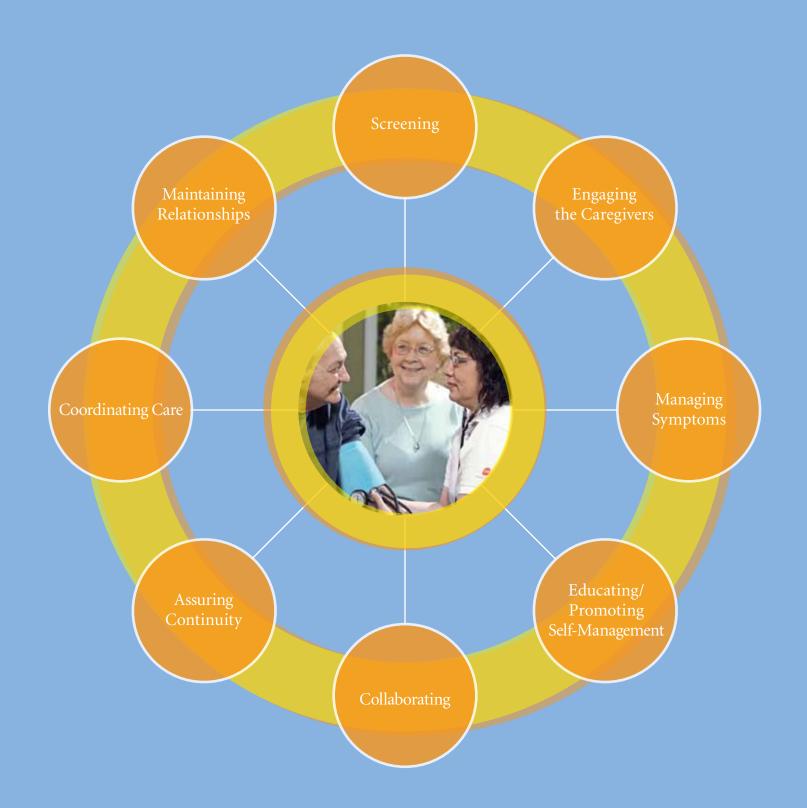


TRANSITIONINGCARE TRANSFORMINGCOMMUNITIES





Source: Adapted from Transitional Care Model, Mary D. Naylor, Ph.D, RN, FAAN, et al., University of Pennsylvania School of Nursing

Helping people connect to the care they need across the continuum, whether a patient or caregiver – this is the focus of TRANSITIONAL CARE.

At VNA Health Group, the transitional care team educates and empowers patients to manage their own health, improve outcomes and reduce rehospitalization.

For nearly 100 years, it has been the calling of VNA Health Group to serve those who, through illness or social circumstance, are most vulnerable. We help them lead healthy, independent lives in the place they call home.

Our grassroots involvement in community life helps us connect patients with a network of compassionate caregivers. In so doing, we bring transformative change to our neighborhoods – one patient, one family, one community at a time.

In Memoriam



Judith Stanley Coleman

Chairman of the Board

1977 – 2010

Board Trustee since 1964

t is with profound gratitude that we honor the life and legacy of Judith Stanley Coleman, a woman whose impeccable grace, unending generosity and commitment to those less fortunate touched countless lives for the better. Often highly visible in advancing the causes she held dear, Mrs. Coleman has left a legacy at VNA Health Group that will be seen in the constant, compassionate care delivered each day in homes all across our community.

As Chairman of our Board for more than three decades, Mrs. Coleman made possible the mission-based, community health care that is the hallmark of our agency. She ensured that we met every need and served every person, regardless of circumstance. Uniquely comfortable in both our Board room and our health centers, Mrs. Coleman's focus was always the same: "Who needs us, and how do we help?"

Under her leadership, VNA Health Group grew from a regional to statewide provider of community-based health care services and the largest VNA in New Jersey. Her passion for better, more accessible health care was matched by her love of community activism, politics, historic preservation and environmental justice. She was a citizen leader and a difference maker.

Judith Stanley Coleman epitomized what a "trustee" should be; she was active, she was generous, and she was compassionate. She has shown us how to make lives better, individually and collectively. We will be steadfast in continuing her work.

VNA Health Group is approaching its Centennial Anniversary. For nearly 50 years of service, there was one constant: Judith Stanley Coleman. Her passing closes a most remarkable chapter in the story of the VNA Health Group and her contributions will endure for generations to come.

VNA Health Group Board of Trustees

From the Chairman and the President and CEO



hroughout the past year, our organization has responded as the American health care paradigm has continued to evolve. We have embraced national goals to improve quality and control cost. Increasingly these measures have centered on transitional care—assisting patients with serious and chronic conditions to transition effortlessly from one level of care or one setting to another.

We, as a healthcare provider, have experienced our own transitions. In the past three years we have grown from a regional service provider to a statewide community health resource. This has been accomplished by unifying five regional entities—VNA of Central Jersey, Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services, Essex Valley VNA, Cape VNA, and Robert Wood Johnson Visiting Nurses—under a unifying brand, VNA Health Group.

This new structure has placed us in a unique position to help those who make the transition from the hospital or rehabilitation facility to a variety of residential settings—assisted living, senior living or private home.

We approach our 100-year milestone mindful that our achievements are made possible by the generosity of the communities we serve. For 46 years, our late chairman, Judith Stanley Coleman, set the example for leadership and philanthropic support. We are grateful to all who have followed her lead in championing our mission. You have given us the rich privilege of bringing hope to the acutely and chronically ill; advocating for the vulnerable; supporting families; and bringing comfort to those at the end of life. In so doing, you have helped us transform communities. Thank you.

Mary Ann Christopher
President and CEO

Thomas M. Thees
Chairman



One man's journey leads him across a continuum of care that involves a regional transplant center, a local medical center, a rehabilitation center and home.

Jess and Tom live on a quiet, tree-lined street in Cape May Court House. And after waging an extended war against lymphoma, Tom will tell you there's no place like home. The battle began in 2006 when Jess noticed a lump in Tom's neck. "We thought it could be a swollen gland, but it didn't clear up," she recalls. The family doctor sent T om to a local surgeon, who made the diagnosis. After three years under the care of a local oncologist, Tom was referred to Thomas Jefferson University Hospital, Philadelphia, to be evaluated for a stem cell transplant.

For the transplant, the hospital uses stem cells from a partially-matched relative. Tom's son Gary, 38, who lives in Egg Harbor Township, was found to be a suitable match. "When I learned I was a match, there was no question in my mind that I would be a donor," Gary says.

The transplant Tom experienced was a 10-day process followed by nearly two months in the hospital. In the weeks following the March 2010 transplant

Tom experienced a number of setbacks. Jess kept a detailed history that noted every milestone.

In August, Tom developed an immune disease, in which the donor's white blood cells (cells that protect against infection) attack the normal tissues of the recipient's body as if they were foreign substances. He was referred by Jefferson to Cape Visiting Nurse Association, and Nancy Alessandrini, RN, arrived to monitor his health.

Nancy coordinated Tom's medications. She watched for fluid build-up (edema) that might indicate cardiopulmonary complications. She also stayed in touch with nurse practitioner Lori Grosso, the transplant coordinator at Thomas Jefferson. Tom felt very weak. "I was so glad to have Nancy come, because I really wasn't strong enough to travel to Jefferson," he says.

Jess has had an essential role in protecting her husband's health. Part of the care plan is "reverse isolation"— removing anything from their home environment that would endanger Tom's health. That means no raw food, no fresh flowers, good hand washing, and (until recently) no visitors. "She was very committed to doing whatever was necessary." says Nancy.

Jess, stalwart from the beginning, was grateful for Nancy's support. "It was comforting to have her come here and to know that I could call her—and I did."

Tom was discharged from Nancy's care in January 2011 and began outpatient physical therapy the same month at the Cape May County Rehabilitation Center. His work on the stationary bike and parallel bars is helping him to regain his strength. He takes lots of vitamins.

"During my recovery, it was reassuring to know that I could depend on Nancy, my nurse from Cape VNA, to monitor my health, check my medications and offer support," says Tom. "And she always arrived with a smile!"



Page 4: Tom, his wife Jess and Nancy Alessandrini, RN, a community health nurse and case manager from Cape Visiting Nurse Association. Page 5: (Left) Tom with Gary, his son and stem cell donor. (Right) Medication teaching is an important facet of care.

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A workshop helps older residents "Take Control" and make a transition to healthier living.

Every Tuesday afternoon for six weeks, 20 residents of Wesleyan Arms, a senior residence in Red Bank, gathered in their community room for a workshop. Eager to find ways to deal with chronic health issues, they were attracted by the topic, "Take Control of Your Health."

Gertrude Kehleay, the administrator, told the residents that Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey (VNACJ) had offered to help them discover practical ways to deal with fatigue and stress, make better nutrition and exercise choices, and find the support needed to cope with pain. "When they explained the course, it sounded like a good idea to me," says Andrew, 74.

VNACJ's Karen Diamond, a community health nurse, and Geraldine Wilkins, a certified home health aide, facilitated "Take Control," helping each of the seniors develop and implement a personal action plan. Although participants are not asked to discuss personal health matters, several concerns predominate, according to Karen Diamond. Among them are arthritis, hypertension, diabetes, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). "Living with chronic pain is a common theme," she adds.

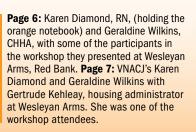
The workshops were funded by a grant awarded to VNACJ by the Monmouth County Division on Aging, Disabilities and Veterans Services, with training provided by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. Developed to promote chronic disease self-management, the workshop focuses on peer-to-peer counseling. Once someone completes the workshop, they are encouraged to share what they have learned.

VNACJ has also facilitated the "Take Control" workshops at the Keyport Senior Center, the Freehold Senior Center, and the Red Bank Community YMCA. The Freehold and YMCA programs were presented in collaboration with the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission.

"I learned to stop and think about how I eat and how I exercise," says Kay, who is 75. "I have a much greater awareness now of things that affect my health." Says Geraldine Wilkins, the group's facilitator, "Anyone who is involved with this course benefits from it."

"We covered a full range of issues," says Karen. "We discussed how to communicate with your doctor, how to relax, how to cope with your emotions. I saw people taking control of their situations, becoming accountable. It's about people helping each other."

The workshops represent grassroots community health outreach, empowering older people to make a transition to healthier living. The sessions are free, but the benefits are priceless.







A Newfound Freedom

Ernestine, a resident of Wesleyan Arms, is a busy woman. She volunteers five mornings a week at the Red Bank Senior Center, helping to pack up 90 meals a day for Meals on Wheels. She reads mystery novels and likes to crochet, knit, and embroider. She is 85.

She is also living with cancer of the lung and spine. The disease was first diagnosed in 2006. Ernestine visits an oncologist regularly, but has declined to undergo chemotherapy. "You learn to live with it and try to lead a normal life," she says.

Through the workshop, Ernestine has experienced a newfound freedom "to do what I want, when I want." She has embraced relaxation techniques such as deep breathing and guided imagery to reduce stress and distract from discomfort. "This program has absolutely made me feel more positive," she says. "I want to make my life as happy as I can."



A little boy with developmental delays is ready for preschool.

After Michael reached the age of 15 months, his parents, Michael Sr. and Christina, became increasingly concerned about his development.

"We worried about his loss of language, his lack of gestures, and his repetitive play habits," Christina recalls. "Michael did not seem to interact with other people. He was in his own little world."

When Michael was 21 months old, his pediatrician suggested that Christina and Michael Sr. consult the Early Intervention Program. They called immediately to schedule an evaluation and that was when Joan Lawton entered their lives. Joan is a certified pediatric nurse who is a case manager for VNA Health Group's Early Intervention program in Burlington County. Christina and Michael Sr. found Joan supportive and reassuring. She helped prepare them for their son's evaluation at home by an occupational therapist and a preschool teacher.

The evaluation confirmed Michael's developmental delays in several areas, including language, self-help, sensory integration and fine motor skills.

The family was offered occupational therapy, speech therapy and behavioral therapy, each for one hour a week at home. "We were overwhelmed by all the information, but we accepted these services with a huge sigh of relief," says Christina.

The speech and language pathologist started to teach Michael sign language, and helped him express his needs by using his hands. The occupational therapist addressed the child's sensory integration and processing issues. The behavioral therapist helped him develop the skills he needed in order to play meaningfully and worked with his parents on improving his attention skills.

Michael Sr. and Christina credit all of the therapists with awakening their son's social interests. They now feel better equipped to help Michael navigate his way through social interactions. "Michael has phenomenal parents," says Joan Lawton. "They have learned and followed through on everything. That's why Michael has made such great progress."

As he turns three, Michael is transitioning from Early Intervention to Special Child Health Services, where he will continue to be supported to ensure the continuity of his care. He will enter the Evesham School District's program for preschoolers with disabilities.

In January, Michael was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder, "a diagnosis that seemed to be less scary and more of a blessing," Christina observes. "Thanks to Early Intervention we had an understanding of our son and—finally—a diagnosis that will help us prepare him for school."



Special Child Health Services (SCHS) is a case management service provided by VNA Health Group for residents of Monmouth and Burlington counties. SCHS provides help for the family of any infant, child or young adult with a health problem or condition that interferes with normal growth or development. SCHS case management is provided to children from birth to age 21 and to their families, regardless of ability to pay.

The Early Intervention Program provides direct services for infants and children from birth to 3 years of age. In 2010 the program had a census of 1,000 children in Monmouth and Burlington counties.

SCHS and EIP are funded throughout New Jersey by grants from the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. For information on these services call:

In Monmouth County: 732-224-6950

In Burlington County Early Intervention: 609-267-7156

For information on Early Intervention in other counties: 1-888-653-4463







The telehealth program reassures and supports patients with unstable health conditions.

"It's comforting to know that even though I am no longer on telehealth, it's there if I need it." Weighing only one pound at birth, Alice was carried home in a padded cigar box and fed with an eye-dropper. But by her three-month check-up, she was growing at a rate that amazed her doctor. Today, at 83, Alice continues to thrive under challenging health conditions.

In January 2010, Alice experienced a heart attack and underwent surgery. Nearly a year later, during a Thanksgiving visit to her son's home, she felt chest pains. Her granddaughter, a resident doctor at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP), drove Alice to the hospital, where she remained for nine days. She was diagnosed with congestive heart failure (CHF).

Upon her return home to West Long Branch, Alice went to see her physician, Donald Ferri, MD, with Monmouth Cardiology. Alice felt anxious about her condition and nervous about being home alone. Dr. Ferri referred her to VNA of Central Jersey (VNACJ) for home care and in-home telehealth

monitoring. The telehealth program is part of a Monmouth Medical Center and VNACJ collaboration to monitor and educate patients with congestive heart failure.

Each day, through the use of a small monitor installed in her home, Alice was able to record her vital signs. The information was sent through the phone line to a VNACJ registered nurse who was available to intervene if needed, helping Alice to avoid potential problems. Her home care nurse, Angelina Villanueva, RN, continued to make weekly nursing visits to monitor Alice's condition and provide education that included medication management, diet and exercise.

Because Alice continued to do well, she was discharged from home care after a few months and referred to Monmouth Medical's Cardiac Rehabilitation Program for rehabilitative exercise. Here she meets with an advanced practice nurse specializing in CHF. This position is yet another component of the Monmouth Medical/VNACJ CHF collaboration.

"The home care support was really wonderful," smiles Alice. "It's comforting to know that even though I am no longer on telehealth, it's available if I need it. It really helped me to understand the things that affect my body and my heart."

Today, Alice is feeling good. She's back in fighting shape.



Page 10: Alice, left, learns to read labels and make the right food choices. Page 11: Angelina Villanueva, RN, explains telehealth monitoring to Alice.

Telehealth Monitoring
Promotes Patient
Independence
and Compliance

Elderly patients with Congestive Health Failure (CHF) present a significant challenge to the current health care system. More than 5 million people in the U.S. suffer from heart failure. Each year, at least one million are admitted to the hospital. Because the chronic condition is difficult to manage, the readmission rate for these patients within 90 days of discharge is more than 45 percent (American Heart Association, 2010).

The VNACJ telehealth monitoring program is part of a collaborative developed by VNACJ and Monmouth Medical Center. The program was initiated in 2008 to keep CHF patients from being re-hospitalized in the early post-discharge months when patients are most vulnerable.

The collaborative is a best-practice illustration of the principles for managing symptoms outlined in the model for transitional care. It has helped both patients and their caregivers to prioritize information and take the appropriate actions, while coping with the complexity of their conditions and the challenges they face.

As a result of the success of this initiative, Monmouth Medical Center has been designated by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) as a "Mentor Hospital" for the care of CHF patients, one of 14 hospitals nationwide—and the only one in New Jersey—to receive such recognition.



An extended family and dedicated hospice staff surround a 93-year-old with loving care.

Alice, 93, is the last of her nine siblings. A widow, she lived in her own home until, at age 88, she moved into the Glassboro home of Joan, her only child. It's a lively household.

Alice has four grandchildren, 11 great grandchildren, and 10 "great-greats." Two of Alice's great grandsons, Bryce and Maceo, visit every day after school.

Alice fell in January 2010, possibly because of a stroke, and was admitted to a rehabilitation center. Her symptoms included a marked weight loss, progressive weakness, and changes in her mental status. In February, Alice was referred to Visiting Nurse and Hospice Services (VNHS) for hospice care.

Roberta Flores, RN, a VNHS certified hospice nurse, visits twice a week to monitor Alice's condition. She takes her blood pressure, listens to her lungs, and measures the circumference of her arm to track weight loss. "Because this condition is progressive, my main role is to keep Alice comfortable," says Roberta. "I ask how she's eating and sleeping, and whether there is any discomfort." She maintains communication with Alice's physician, and will call the doctor if medications are needed or if she feels they need to be adjusted.

Certified Home Health Aides Elma Moxley and Debbie Tomlin visit several days each week to provide personal care. They assist Alice with hand, arm and leg exercises recommended by the physical therapist to counteract the pain of rheumatoid arthritis. A hospice social worker and a spiritual counselor are also members of the team.

Roberta has been a hospice nurse for 17 of her 24 years in nursing. When she tried hospice, "I realized I had found my niche," she says. "We look at hospice as an opportunity to help families cope with the progression of their loved one's illness and we take a positive approach. If there is a change in the patient's status, I will take the family or other caregiver aside and explain what's happening and why."

"Going the extra mile" is second nature for the hospice team, and even simple gestures are appreciated. Roberta and Alice had talked about planting flowers, and on a recent day the nurse arrived with irises from her garden. Alice beamed. "Those are the best times," says Roberta, "when you leave a patient's home thinking, 'I really helped them today."



The Hospice Team

VNA Health Group has long recognized the special need to help terminally ill patients through a holistic, compassionate approach that addresses physical, social and spiritual needs in the comfortable surroundings of home, family and friends. Engaging the patient and family in determining their needs is a central component of the hospice plan of care. Services are provided by a multi-disciplinary hospice team that includes:

- A hospice medical director or physician
- Registered nurses
- Licensed social workers
- Certified home health aides
- Physical, occupational and speech therapists
- Providers of complementary therapies, including pet, music and massage therapies and Reiki
- Pastoral care providers
- Hospice volunteers
- Bereavement counselors

Page 12: Alice with Roberta Flores, her hospice nurse. Page 13: Maceo, 6, visits his great grandmother every day after school.

Above: Alice and her daughter, Joan, enjoy their precious moments at home.



Through a pilot program, certified home health aides provide expanded care that helps a handicapped woman to live at home.

Ralph proudly opens the door to Maureen's room. It is painted pale lavender and adorned with butterflies and ladybugs – a young girl's dream. "You should see all the clothes she has," Ralph smiles. "My wife wanted her to always look nice."

Maureen is the youngest of Patricia and Ralph's four children. A smiling, chubby-cheeked infant, Maureen was perfect in every way. Then at ten months old, for no apparent medical reason, she suffered a grand mal seizure. And the seizures just never stopped. Maureen was ultimately diagnosed with a general seizure disorder, infantile cerebral palsy and scoliosis that left her unable to move her arms, walk, or speak.

While unprepared for the immense support and care Maureen would require, Patricia was determined to care for her daughter at home. She enlisted the services of VNA of Central Jersey (VNACJ) and, for more than 25 years, the health care team has ensured the continuity of Maureen's care.

In 2009 Patricia passed away. VNACJ continues to be there for Ralph who, at 73, is now Maureen's full-time caregiver. Maureen is 42.

"Caring for Maureen was Patricia's life," says Ralph. "I really did not understand the full extent of Maureen's care." Ralph has had a lot to learn. Maureen weighs only 47 pounds and receives daily nutrition and medication through a feeding tube. She experiences daily seizure activity and requires nebulizer treatments to lessen breathing difficulties.

Five days a week, Maureen attends the Shore Adult Training Center where she receives sensory stimulation and therapeutic activities. Currently, Margaret Bossett, BSN, RN, a VNACJ registered nurse, provides nursing care and supervises the daily assistance provided by Maureen's certified home health aides. The aides arrive early to prepare Maureen for the Center and then return in the afternoon.

The aides have received training under a special grant-funded pilot program, approved by the State Board of Nursing, to provide the feeding and breathing treatments customarily provided by a nurse or family member. "Having their help reduces a lot of my stress. I could not do it without them." said Ralph.

"Ralph is a wonderful advocate for his daughter," said Margaret. "He knows we're here to support Maureen in any way possible. It takes a collaborative effort and Ralph and his family play a large role."

Ralph says, "I believe my wife was preparing me for this." Gently stroking Maureen's hair, he adds, "She's our child and we love her. As long as I am able to care for her, I want her home with me. I think my wife would be proud."





Certified Home Health Aides Are Part of Pilot Project to Enhance Care

VNA Health Group was selected in 2008 to participate in a 3-year grant, the New Jersey Nurse Delegation Pilot Project, sponsored by the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Disability Services. The goal of the pilot was to explore the use of nurses in delegating expanded responsibilities to certified home health aides, under the nurses' direct supervision.

At the end of the grant program in April 2011, the VNA Health Group home health aide pilot group was approved by the Board of Nursing to continue their expanded duties to seven patients, one of whom is Maureen.

Above: Donna Jennings-Tillery, CHHA, center, gives Maureen a breathing treatment under the direct supervision of Margaret Bossett, BSN, RN.

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Caroline Kirk, BSN, RN,

Maintaining Relationships

BUILDING A HEALTHY FAMILY

A young, first-time mom gains an important ally in the transition to parenthood and self-sufficiency.

When 21-year-old Regina gave birth to her son, Brandon, in August 2008, she felt the joy and the anxiety common to first-time moms everywhere. An added worry was the fact that her husband, Nicholas, a specialist in the U.S. Army, would be deployed for an overseas assignment when Brandon was only 2 months old. On top of it all, Regina lost her job as a hospital housekeeper. It was a tough time.

But Regina had a very special person to help her make the transition to parenthood and self-sufficiency. Linda Kennon, a Family Support Worker for VNA Health Group's Healthy Families Program, was there to provide support when Regina needed it most. An East Orange resident, Regina had learned about Healthy Families from the social worker at Newark's Beth Israel Medical Center where Brandon was born. She enrolled in the voluntary program two months after his birth.

Based at the VNA Health Group office in Newark, Linda will continue to make regular home visits to follow the progress of mother and child until Brandon turns 3 years old. She has helped Regina develop good parenting skills, set personal objectives and make the most of her potential. Linda encouraged her to seek a job that fulfilled her desire to help others.

Regina has always dreamed of being a nurse. Linda suggested the option of becoming a certified home health aide as a way to take a first step into the world of health care. Regina completed the course with flying colors and was hired by VNA Health Group in December 2010. She provides care for patients living in Irvington, Newark and Maplewood. Brandon stays with Regina's mother while his mom is at work. "I'm very proud of her," says Linda. "Regina set her goals and she met them."

As she pursues her own career options, Regina is also focused on her role as a parent. She turns to Linda with her questions and concerns. "The group meetings and Linda's weekly visits have helped me achieve my ambitions," says Regina, "and, most important, be a better mother to Brandon."

Left: Regina is now a Certified Home

Health Aide for VNA Health Group.

and Healthy Families Support

Worker Linda Kennon.

Right: Regina, left, with son, Brandon,







'NEITHER SNOW NOR SLEET...'

In the storm of the century, snow blowers and solid relationships in the community helped VNACJ deliver a nurse to her patient.

Dan Golding, head of security escorts at VNA of Central Jersey, travels throughout the state to ensure that nurses and staff are able to reach their patients. When inclement weather strikes, Dan's job becomes more important than ever.

"I left the house early Sunday morning on December 26th," Dan recalls. "It had snowed throughout the night, and by morning 32 inches of snow had accumulated. I did not return home until Wednesday night."

During that time, one of the calls Dan received was from Gail Szentes, RN, a case manager for Special Child Health Services. She needed to get a nurse to a home in Red Bank to handle a health emergency but the street was totally blocked. "My brother, Tom, lives nearby and I knew the family who lived across the street, so I called Tom to ask if they could help," says Dan. Tom's neighbors were the Caminiti family, whose three sons, Rocco, Leo and Steve, share a history of helping others.

Rocco, 23, and Leo, 21, are both Eagle Scouts and Assistant Scout Leaders of Boy Scout Troop 140, Middletown. Steve, 18, is in the process of completing his final Eagle Scout project.

Borrowing snow blowers from the neighbors, Tom, Rocco, Leo and Steve directed their attention to the task at hand. Tom called Dan as soon as the path was wide enough for his vehicle. Fortified by the community that continues to to sustain the mission of VNACJ, Dan delivered the nurse to her patient within the hour.

Says Dan, "When it comes to patients who require care from our nurses, it doesn't matter what the conditions are, we will find a way."

Neither snow or sleet can keep VNA Health Group from getting through.

Top Left: Dan Golding made sure that Gail Szentes, RN, center, and Sandra Ambrose, RN were able to reach their patients during a December 2010 snowstorm. Right: The Caminiti boys, all Eagle Scouts, and Tom Golding (not shown) did a good deed to help their neighbors in need. Lower Right: VNA Health Group nurses visit patients no matter what the weather.



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Managing Symptoms

Left: Dana, left, with her nurse

Connie Johnson, who holds Emmeline

Right: Patient education is an essential

part of providing care at home. Connie taught Dana how to care for herself.

AN EXPERT IN THE HOUSE

A nurse consultant develops a new approach to care for patients transitioning from hospital to home.

Dana and David eagerly anticipated the arrival of their daughter, Emmeline, last September. Their first child, Freddie, had been delivered by Caesarian section, as was Emmeline. The baby's delivery went well, but her mother experienced some complications from the surgery.

Dana's physician called Robert Wood Johnson Visiting Nurses, a partnership of VNA Health Group and RWJ University Hospital, who sent Connie Johnson, RN, BSN, WCC, DAPWCA, a community health nurse and wound care specialist. Connie visited Dana at her Hillsborough home over a period of six weeks, first to provide treatment and then—in an intensive two-hour session—to teach Dana to care for herself. "She was awesome," says Dana.

Small wonder. Connie is recognized nationally for helping to develop an improved formulary for treating wounds of patients transitioning from an acute care setting to home. Research she conducted and published with VNA Health Group's Elizabeth Vocaturo, MSN, RN, has generated interest in the home health care community and among hospital clinicians.

The nurses were able to demonstrate new and effective techniques for improved wound care of a patient at home.

They found that in some cases newer products had significant advantages over traditional treatments.

"In the hospital, a patient is surrounded by a team of professionals," Connie says. "At home, everyday care and healing can be more challenging." She points out that patient education and communication with the physician are especially important. In fact, the team developed a new process for communicating with physicians, a process that will soon be implemented by VNA Health Group's 500 nurses.

Dana's recovery began when Connie walked in the door. "I had heard of the VNA forever," Dana says, "but I always associated it with end-of-life care, not beginning-of-life care."

Under Connie's skillful care, Dana began healing quickly. "Connie's more than a nurse; she's part of my community," Dana says. "She's welcome in our house any day."







KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES HEALTHY

Participants in a recent health fair sponsored by the Visiting Nurse Association Health Group found they were able to have a blood pressure or cholesterol check completed within just a matter of minutes.

"I think it's beautiful. It really helped me today," said Bernice Fitzpatrick, 65, who had walked over to the fair at the New Community Neighborhood Recreation Center from her senior building at 180 South Orange Ave. in Newark. During the April 2 event, which used the theme, "Keeping Newark Healthy," Fitzpatrick discovered that her blood pressure was higher than it normally is and that prompted her to visit her health provider.

The fair offered educational information on everything from allergies, heart disease, breast cancer and oral cancer to diabetes, diet and domestic violence. Anita Foster, APN, RN, a VNA Health Group nurse practitioner, was on hand to check cholesterol and provide general nursing assessments. "We want to get people connected to healthy habits," she said.

The VNA staff also disseminated information on the organization's visiting nurse services, including hospice care. Assisting VNA officials were students from the Seton Hall University School of Nursing, who staffed the various tables set up around the huge gymnasium.

The event is one of more than 300 health fairs and presentations in which VNA Health Group participates throughout the year in its efforts to improve community health. In 2010 nearly 14,000 people benefited from these events.

Top Left: Seton Hall nursing students collaborate with VNA Health Group to provide educational health information. Right: Anita Foster, APN, RN, a Family nurse practitioner, provides cholesterol screenings. Lower Right: In 2010 VNA Health Group reached out to more than 14,000 people at health fairs and presentations.



Senior Wellness services are provided at more than 100 senior sites throughout New Jersey by VNA Health Group community health nurses.



Community Benefit and Community-Based Programs

In a year of healthcare transition and uncertainty, VNA Health Group has continued to sustain its mission, providing nearly **\$14.6 million** in community benefit and community-based programs to the people of New Jersey.

At a pediatric clinic, children were encouraged to say "B00 to the FLU" by getting flu shots. Immunizations are provided to adults and children in schools, senior centers and other community sites.

As a nonprofit, community-based home health provider, VNA Health Group is committed to caring for the people in our communities irrespective of circumstance. That mission has fortified and sustained us since 1912, enabling us to be a safety-net provider that touches the lives of more than 120,000 people each year.

Children enjoy a day of support with other children who have experienced the loss of a loved one. These children are creating 'memory' boxes.

With the support of Nurse-Family Partnership nurse Georgette Williams, this young mother was encouraged to obtain her GED, get a driver's license, and plan a productive future for herself and her child.



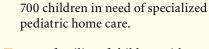
Here are some of the many ways VNA Health Group helped to transform communities in 2010.

Through the School-Based Youth Services Program, students have the

opportunity to receive one-on-one

tutoring or take online accelerated

academic programs.



□ 5,000 visits were provided to nearly

- → 9,000 families of children with special needs received case management and support through Special Child Health and the Early Intervention Program.
- □ 425 expectant mothers participated in the Healthy Families home visitation program.
- 200 first-time mothers received parenting support through VNAHG's Nurse-Family Partnership Programs.
- 1,000 students saved 22,000 hours of school absence due to the services of school-based nurse practitioners.
- 36,000 families with children under 5 received food and nutrition counseling through VNAHG's Women, Infants and Childrens (WIC) Supplemental Nutrition Program.

- 4,000 seniors took advantage of senior wellness services including health screenings and education and prevention programs by a registered nurse.
- ☐ More than 1,100 of the most vulnerable, disenfranchised individuals living in boarding homes, shelters and motels, received outreach support, care and coordination of services through our Mobile Outreach Clinic Program.
- □ 10,000 immunizations were provided to adults and children to help maintain community health and prevent the spread of influenza.
- ☐ 14,000 people of all ages attended and received free health screenings and education at community health fairs and presentations.
- □ 1,700 patients received hospice and palliative care. Since its inception, more than 100 children have attended VNAHG's bereavement support camp for children ages 6-12 who have experienced the loss of a loved one.
- 327 nursing students from 11 colleges and universities have received clinical field practicum by VNAHG community healthcare preceptors.

IN 2010, VNA Health Group Volunteers donated 29,000 hours of service to support our services and programs.

VNAHG mobile outreach pediatric nurse, Leanora Chojnowski, RN, provides support for a new mom and her baby.

(L to r) Mark Munro, Dr. Vincent Zales, and Susan and Brian Keating support VNA Health Group's 24th Annual Golf and Tennis Classic.



Your Generosity Makes A Difference

During 2010, VNA Health Group received more than \$11.1 million from individuals, foundations, corporations, organizations, funding organizations and government grants. This generous support enabled us to provide care to more than 120,000 men, women and children throughout New Jersey.



Mary Ann Christopher, VNAHG president and CEO, center, and Bridget Murphy, VNAHG chief philanthropy officer ,left, receive a check for \$232,000 from Thrift Shop officers (from I to r) Dorothy Silady, president, Patricia Kutz, treasurer, Mary Anne Kirby, corresponding secretary, and Jackie Zurla, vice president.

Highlights of giving in 2010 include:

Mrs. Elizabeth Baigent, a generous donor and member of the Geraldine L. Thompson Legacy Society, established **two charitable gift annuities** several years ago. Upon her passing in 2010, VNA Health Group received a generous gift of \$306,000.

In 2010, the more than 200 volunteers of the **VNACJ Thrift and Consignment Shop**, Manasquan, proudly presented VNA Health Group with a check in the record amount of \$232,000. Since its inception in 1960, the Thrift Shop has raised more than \$4 million to benefit those in need.

Stately Homes By-The-Sea Designer Show House Chairmen, left to right, Mindy Minerva, Nancy Mulheren, and Liz Thees.

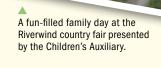


In 2010, gifts totaling more than \$208,000 were made in support of our **Annual Fund**. These included memorial and tribute gifts as well as contributions from **Corporate Mission Partners**.

Special Events were a major source of charitable revenue in 2010, collectively raising more than \$230,000. They included:

- ☐ The 24th Annual Golf Classic & Tennis Tournament
- Annual Afternoon at Riverwind
- ☐ The Power of the Purse
- ☐ The Middlesex Fashion Show
- Holiday Dinner Dance
- ☐ Hospice Tree Lighting
- Holiday House Tour
- Stately Homes By-The-Sea Designer Show House. The three show house events have raised more than \$1 million in charitable support since 2007.

Corporate and foundation grants, several New Jersey United Ways, and government and private funders provided nearly \$10 million in support of VNA Health Group community-based programs in 2010.





 Holiday Dinner Dance committee with VNAHG President and CEO, Mary Ann Christopher, dinner dance honoree, center.

Special Events

VNA of Central Jersey Thrift Shop Children's Auxiliary

24th Annual Golf and Tennis Classic

Joseph Sodano, Chairman

Robert Bennett Alex Binder Winn Boileau Peter Carton Fred Fabozzi Jay Feigus Michael Jensen Chris Kaeli Sam Kinney Todd Laliberte Frank Male, Jr. Philip Martinho Sean McMahon

Kerry Parker

Kevin Rogers

Michael Serluco

Ken Simels

Holiday Dinner Dance
Mr. and Mrs. William J. Egan III,
Co-chairmen

Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Wheat, Co-chairmen

Dr. and Mrs. Vincent Zales, Co-chairmen

Kristie Linington Dr. and Mrs. Peter Mencil Mr. and Mrs. P.J. McMenamin The Hon. Jennifer Naughton Mr. and Mrs. Michael Scotto Holiday House Tour

Marianne Avigdor, Co-chairman Janice Barry Fannan, Co-chairman Gwynne Sugg, Co-chairman

Kathy Cashes Nonnie Godvin Regina Godvin de Gersdorf Cheryl Morris Jan Warshauer

Stately Homes By-The-Sea
Designer Show House

Mindy Minerva, *Chairman* Nancy Mulheren, *Chairman* Elizabeth Thees, *Chairman*

Committee Chairs

Madlyn Aaron Debbie Ansell Mary Ansell Lisa Atallah Marianne Avigdor Rosemary Murphy Bell Avery Brighton Marilyn Broege Tracy Brown Sharen Cutler Alexandra Delaney Alice DiFiglia Maggie Falcetano Janice Fannan Beth Giannotto Jill Gordon

Patty Haverstick Daren Hutchinson Kathy Jones Claire Knopf Marlene Lonshein Eileen O'Hern Luby Marshall Lynch Paula Metz Ellen Miles Dana Miller **Cheryl Morris** Maureen Mulheren Vanessa Mulheren Jodi Navitsky Karen Puma Debbie Raia Margaret Riker Jeanne Shanley Lynn Spector **Chris Stout** Dawn Stout Kaye Wise Colleen Wood

Left: Winners of the 24th Annual Golf and Tennis Classic. Center: Holiday Dinner Dance chairs with honoree Mary Ann Christopher. Right: Carol Lynn Chetkin, left, and Jill Broderick in the VNAHG room they designed at the 2011 Stately Homes By-The-Sea Show House.







/NA of Central Jersey Thrift Shop

Dorothy Silady, President

Jacqueline Zurla, Vice President

Mary Anne Kirby, Corresponding Secretary

Patricia Kutz, Treasurer

Board of Managers

Eleanor Domke
Paula Foley
Dot Hall
Mary Ann Ierley
Maureen Jamieson
Kathy Keleher
Catherine Kerris
Vita Leach
Carol Maccanico
Coleen Mahoney
Chris Marchgraber
Helenbeth Matyas
Margaret Meehan
Faith Nolfi

Mary Plasse Anne Post Margaret Walsh Linda Jensen, Coordinator

Note: Thrift Shop board members as of May 2011.

Nancy Angerole, a thrift shop volunteer for more than seven years, was awarded the 2011 Rosemary Cook Award from VNA Health Group in recognition of her visionary leadership and dedication in generating funds to benefit those most in need. The Thrift Shop presented the VNA with a check in the amount of \$232,000.



hildren's Auxiliary

Nikie Sourlis, Co-chairman

Ana Blank, Co-chairman

Laura Balestro Michelle Barber Regina de Gersdorff Sarah Devine



Jill Drummond
Danielle Devine Greene
Angela Gengaro
Lisa Halikias
Maria Oberlander
Kathleen Palmeri
Anne Riddle
Elizabeth Shiftan
Cynthia Spitz
Corene Victor
Laura Whisnand
Debra Williams
Lauren Wolfe
Heather Yockel

Left: Children's Auxiliary members at the Power of the Purse event. **Right:** At Riverwind, the children's country fair.

2010 Donors 2010 Donors

The following individuals, corporations, organizations and foundations made generous contributions of \$250 or more in 2010 to support VNA Health Group programs and services.

Mr. and Mrs. George J. Christopher

Dr. Maria F. Ciminelli

Individual Donors
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Ms. Eleanor Alston
Mr. and Mrs. Attilio T. Alterio
Mr. and Mrs. Louis P. Amato
Mr. and Mrs. Matthew R. Amitrano
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Mrs. Dorothy L. Caspar Mrs. Elinor L. Chevalier

Dr. Minnie Campbell

Ms. Susan Careatti

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CentraState Healthcare System

Chevron Humankind Matching Gift

Cerebral Palsy Association of

Middlesex County

Program

Christopher Rice Architecture, P.C. Club Paradise **CME** Associates Crazee's D.A.D.'s Landscaping Danskin Insurance Agency Inc **Dunham Charities** East Orange General Hospital **Enclara Health** Epstein Becker & Green, P.C. **Ernst and Young Employee Charitable** Giving Campaign Estabrook Capital Management, LLC ExxonMobil Foundation F.R. Male Associates Family Practice of Central Jersey Feigus Office Furniture Flair Cleaners Fortress Investment Group Fox Asset Management Frank Giannantonio & Associates, Inc. Friends of the Spring Lake Five George Harms Construction Company, Inc. Giordano, Halleran & Ciesla, PC Goldtinker of Deal **Greater Spring Lake Chamber** of Commerce **Greenleaf Landscaping Systems** and Services, Inc. Groundskeeper Hatteras Press Inc. The Hazel Dell Foundation, Inc. Herbert L. Jamison and Company, L.L.C. Hoagland, Longo, Moran, Dunst & Doukas, LLP Homecare Homebase Hotchkis and Wiley Capital Management, LLC Ice Cold Novelty Products, Inc. **IFA Insurance Company** Innophos, Inc. Interfaith Neighbors, Inc. **Investors Savings Bank** Irish Centre

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NJ State Troopers NCO Association

Ocean First Bank

On Time Transport

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Phoenix Group

PNC Foundation

PAETEC

PDEC

OceanFirst Foundation

Palisades Medical Center

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Northeastern Connecticut

United Way of Hunterdon County

United Way of Monmouth County

United Way of Central Jersey

United Way of New York City United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania United Way of Tri-State US Home Med LLC Verizon Verizon Foundation Verizon New Jersey Visiting Physician Services, PC VNA of Central Jersey Thrift Shop Westcon Group, Inc. Willis WithumSmith+Brown **Corporate Mission Partners** our services and programs, our

Through their generous support of Corporate Mission Partners are an important component of the support VNA Health Group receives from the community at large.

Gibbons, P.C. Metlife TD Bank **CBIZ EAO Benefits**

Geraldine L. Thompson Legacy Society

In the tradition of Geraldine L. Thompson, our founder, members of the Legacy Society are individuals who are interested in the agency's future and dedicated to its mission. The Society was established to honor those who designate the agency as the recipient of a bequest or other planned gift.

Anonymous A Special Friend Mrs. Vivian Carr Mrs. Louanne Pillsbury Christie Judith Stanley Coleman* Thomas C. Dunham* Mr.* and Mrs. Jason M. Elsas, Jr. Mr.* and Mrs. Robert P. Giblon Mr. and Mrs. F. James Hutchinson

2010 Donors 2010 Donors

Mr. James Lupo Mr.* and Mrs. Frederic P. Tompkins Mr. and Mrs. Frank Vigilante Mr. E. Bruce Wetzel in memory of Jean H. Wetzel

* Deceased

Planned Gifts

Estate of Frances Adams Estate of Ruth Carabell Estate of Helen M. Dapsis

Funders

Home News Tribune, Needy Cases Fund Horizon Blue Cross & Blue Shield Foundation of N.J. Mary Owen Borden Foundation Monmouth Park Charity Fund N.J. Natural Gas Company Red Bank Rotary Foundation
United Way of Central Jersey
United Way of Gloucester County
United Way of Monmouth County
Verizon New Jersey
Visiting Nurse Associations of America
Grotta Fund for Senior Care

Government Funders

U.S. Department of Agriculture

State of NJ – Department of Health and Senior Services Supplemental Nutrition Program

- Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Community Development Block Grant/County of Monmouth, NJ Emergency Shelter Grant Program Health Assessments for the Homeless

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Health Resources & Services Administration Primary Health Care HIV/AIDS Health Services Health Care and Other Facilities

State of NJ – Department of Health and Senior Services

Special Child Health Services
Early Intervention Program
HIV/AIDS Health Services
Cancer Education and Early Detection
Comprehensive Care Control Plan
Health Facility Emergency Preparedness
HIV Home Care Program



State of NJ – Department of Children & Families

Child and Parent Program/CAPP

Healthy Families/Day Care
Speech Pathology
Mobile Outreach Clinic Program
School Based Youth Services Program
Asbury Park
Nurse Family Partnership Monmouth County
Nurse Family Partnership Middlesex County

State of NJ – Department of Human Services

United Way

Division of Disability Services
Traumatic Brain Injury Fund

State of NJ – Department of Health and Senior Services

Respite Care Program Gloucester County Respite Care Program Burlington County

Burlington County Board of Chosen Freeholders, NJ Department of Human Services

Office on Aging/Social Service Block Grant Office on Aging/Applicants for Older Americans

Gloucester County Board of Chosen Freeholders, NJ Department of Human Services

Office on Aging/Social Service Block Grant County Freeholders

Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders, NJ Department of Human Services

Division of Mental Health and Addiction
Services/Mobile Outreach Services
Division of Social Services/
Special Child Health Services
Division of Social Services/Primary
and Preventative Health Services
Office on Aging/Preventative Physical
Health Services for Senior Citizens
Office on Aging/Health Screening and
Health Education Services
Division of Employment and Training
Group/Job Search/STAR
Division of Employment and Training/
Nurse Outreach and Assessments

Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders, NJ Human Services Department

Community Based Care Management Services for HIV/AIDS Personal Assistance Services Program (PASP) for Persons with Physical Disabilities Home Health Services Middlesex County

36,579

PREVENTION BY

THE NUMBERS

Here are some of the ways VNAHG promoted a healthier community in 2010:

women and children received nutritious foods and nutrition counseling through the WIC program.

10,424

people received vaccinations to prevent influenza and pneumonia.

(includes H1N1)

9,853

individuals of all ages received vital primary care services regardless of ability to pay.

14,117

people participated in health promotion programs offered at community events throughout New Jersey.

1,021

children and teens received care from nurse practitioners in their schools.

1,170

residents of boarding homes, motels and homeless shelters received nursing care from VNAHG community health nurses

915

uninsured men and women received cancer screenings through the Cancer Education and Early Detection program.

We have made every attempt to ensure the accuracy of these lists and ask that you please email us at info@vnahg.org or call (732)224-6780 if you find an error or omission.

A Tribute to Excellence

Senior Management Professional Advisory Committee

(as of May 2011)

VNA Health Group proudly honors members of our staff who received national, state and local recognition in 2010.

National Awards

Andrea Parkhill, MSN, RN
Community Health Nurse
Clinician of the Year
Visiting Nurse Associations of America

New York Times Tribute to Nurses Community Service Award

Marjorie Forgang, MSN, RN, NEA-BC Chief Nursing Officer Administrative Manager of the Year Visiting Nurse Associations of America

New York Times Tribute to Nurses Leadership Award Recognition

State and Regional Awards

Mary Ann Christopher, MSN, RN, FAAN President and CEO NJBiz "50 Most Powerful People in Health Care"

Marie Hanna

VNA Health Group Hospice Volunteer NJ Hospice and Palliative Care Organization Volunteer of the Year

William Stevens
Spiritual Care Counselor
NJ Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
Reiki Practitioner of the Year



VNA Health Group Awards

Theresa L. Beck, MPA, RN, CHPN®
Chief Mission Officer
Judith Stanley Coleman Award for
Exceptional Service to the Community

Ana M. Campana
Certified Home Health Aide, Personal Care
Home Health Aide of the Year

Helen A. Flood

Executive Assistant, VNHS

Doris A. Septen Employee of the Year

Ann M. Healy, MSN, RN
Manager, Extended Hours
Marcia Granucci Leadership Award

Kathy Keleher

VNA Health Group Volunteer Rosemary Cook Volunteer Leadership Award

Nicole J. Leising

Certified Home Health Aide, Personal Care Home Health Aide "Rookie of the Year"

Mary C. LoRé Physical Therapist

Rehabilitative Therapist of the Year

Betsy Pepperman, MSW, LCSW Social Worker, Prenatal Services Social Worker of the Year

Kathleen A. Reilly, BSN, RN Staff Nurse, Home Care Nurse of the Year

Theresa Beck, VNA Health Group chief mission officer, receives Judith Stanley Coleman Award for Exceptional Service in Community Health from board trustees, I to r, Dorothy Smith, Denise Devine and Penn Branin.

Senior Management

Mary Ann Christopher, MSN, RN, FAAN President and Chief Executive Officer

Kevin G. Rogers, CPA Chief Financial Officer

Theresa L. Beck, MPA, RN, CHPN® Chief Mission Officer and Vice President, Community Initiatives

Marjorie P. Forgang, MSN, RN, NEA-BC Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President, Clinical Operations

John A. Harz, MBA Chief Talent Officer and Vice President, Human Resources

Bridget A. Murphy, CFRE
Chief Philanthropy Officer

Mary B. Wachter, MS, RN Chief Strategy Officer and Vice President, Business Development

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Director of Legal and Regulatory Affairs

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Left: James Vaccaro, trustee. Right: Diane Vigilante. VNA volunteer, with board trustees. I to r. Frank Vigilante, Eleanor Milazzo, Richard Dyas and Ulrich Rudow.

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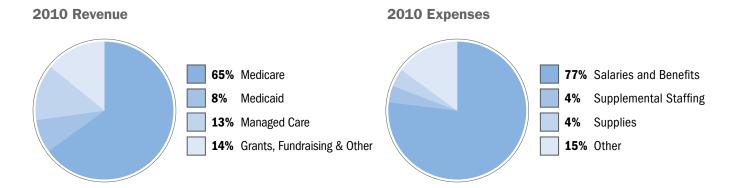
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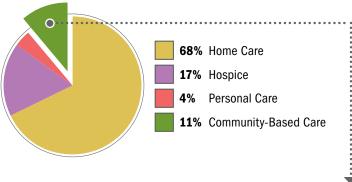
Cape Visiting Nurse Association, a partnership of VNA Health Group and Cape Regional Medical Center opens its doors. 1st row. I to r. Boyette More. PT. Marge Dishon, RN, Cape VNA clinical director, Wayne Whelan, executive director, Joanne Carrocino, CRMC president & CEO. Mary Ann Christopher. VNA Health Group president & CEO, Michele Grimmer, RN, Second row: Cape VNA staff



Financial Information



Uses of Revenue





Statistics

26,029

Total Home Care and Hospice Patients

Total Patients, Community-based Programs

94,427 1,009,600

Total Units of Service

In-home Services

Nursing, 24/7

Hospice and Palliative Care

Certified Home Health Aide Services

Home Infusion/IV Therapy

Medical Social Work

Nutrition Counseling

Occupational Therapy

Physical Therapy Speech Therapy

Private Duty Services

- Nursing
- CHHAs
- · Live-In's

Telehealth

Emergency Personal Response System

Volunteer Program

Community-Based Programs

AIDS/HIV Services

Bereavement Counseling for Adults and Children

Case Management Services for Long-term Care

Cancer Education & Early Detection

Chronic Disease Self-Management

Community Health Education

Healthy Families

Immunization Programs

Mobile Outreach Clinic Program

Nurse-Family Partnership

Prenatal Care

Primary Care

Public Health

Special Child Health Services/ Early Intervention

Senior Wellness

School-Based Health & Youth Programs

Services to Day Care Centers

Speakers Bureau

Volunteer Program

WIC Supplemental Nutrition Program







