



IN THIS ISSUE

Leadership News 2

Enhancing Patient Care 3-4

Screening for Sepsis

Life Planning/Wellness Services
for Congregation of
Notre Dame

Helping Patients Manage
Asthma

Elite Care Services Launched

In the Community 5-7

2019 Spring Gala

New Nursing School Affiliation

Flu Vaccination Program

County Officials Visit Patient

Free Home Health Aide Training

Honors for VNSW RN & Rehab
Director

New Dutchess Office

VNSW President meets Senate
Leader

Screening for Sepsis at Home

VNS Westchester (VNSW) has launched a new clinical program to help reduce instances of sepsis among the close to 10,000 patients we serve each year. Beginning in August, we started screening our homecare patients for signs and symptoms of sepsis using a new interactive Sepsis Screening, Education and Early Intervention tool.



(Continued on page 3)

Elite Care Services Launched

Westchester Care at Home (WCAH), an affiliate of VNS Westchester, has introduced a new suite of specialty concierge care services to address the complex health and personal care needs of the elderly and other vulnerable populations at home. The aim of the program is to provide tailored services that foster safety, independence and dignity among clients, while bringing peace of mind to families.

(Continued on page 4)



Leadership News

New Board Appointments: 2019-2020

We are delighted to welcome the following new members of the Westchester Visiting Nurse Services Group, Inc. Board. Each is distinguished in their respective field, and brings diverse skills and expertise to our agencies as we strive to provide the highest standards of care for our patients.



RICHARD J. DAVIDIAN has over 40 years of experience as a senior-level marketing executive, with leadership positions at Bristol Myers Squibb and other major companies. He brings to our agency

expertise in strategic marketing, sales and customer service in the healthcare, financial services, technology and communications industries.



RICHARD D. FENTON is Senior Vice President, Executive Search at TAL Healthcare, a Healthcare Executive Search Firm serving organizations across the healthcare spectrum. Prior to that,

he had a prominent 40-plus year career as a leader in healthcare administration, achieving success in new program and business development.



CAMILLE FREMONT is Audit Managing Director in KPMG's New York Healthcare and Public Services practice. She has 15 years of experience providing financial statement audit

and accounting services to not-for-profit organizations, including healthcare providers, long-term care facilities, health plans and educational institutions.

New Board Appointment for President/CEO



TIMOTHY P. LEDDY, President & CEO of the Westchester Visiting Nurse Services Group, Inc. – parent organization of VNS Westchester and Westchester Care at Home – was appointed to

the Board of The Westchester Public/Private Partnership for Aging Services (WPPP). The WPPP is a dynamic partnership of government, business and voluntary service agencies who work together to enhance the quality of life for seniors in Westchester County.

Enhancing Patient Care

Screening for Sepsis at Home

(Continued from cover)



Sepsis, the body's overwhelming response to infection, has been declared a national medical emergency. It is the #1 cause of death in U.S. hospitals and the #1 driver of hospital readmissions. Sepsis is especially prevalent among those who are 65 or older, and 80-90% of sepsis cases originate in the home or community.

Our new Sepsis Screening tool, developed by the Home Care Association of NYS, IPRO, the Sepsis Alliance and the Rory Staunton Foundation, will help us identify early signs of the condition and engage in interventions to prevent possible organ failure and fatalities. Funding for this program was provided by Aging in America, Inc. and the VNSW Foundation, Inc.

WCAH Offers Life Planning/Wellness Services to Congregation

Westchester Care at Home is partnering with the Congregation of Notre Dame (CND) to provide comprehensive life planning, care management and wellness services for Sisters residing in CND's congregate settings in New York. The program offers a wide range of health care management, personal care and social support services to help CND's Sisters maintain the best possible quality of life and to successfully age in place.

The Visiting Nurse Service of New York will participate by providing access to Medicaid managed care services for eligible members of the Congregation. The new program is a prime example of how three mission-driven agencies with more than a century of service can come together to help a unique community preserve its well-being and way of life. To learn more, contact rmelly@vns.org/.

Helping Patients Manage Asthma



Supported by a \$10,000 grant from the American Lung Association, VNSW recently launched our Hi-Risk Asthma Home Visiting Program. Asthma represents a significant risk for the elderly as it can quickly lead to respiratory failure. Funding for this program has enabled us to train our clinical staff to recognize asthma triggers, conduct in-depth assessments and create action plans to reduce patient re-hospitalizations and ER visits. Our home care visits provide the ideal setting to educate patients and families, review medication plans and encourage patient and family participation.

Elite Care Services Launched

(Continued from cover)

Provided by NY State Certified Home Health Aides with advanced training/certification in Dementia Care, Disease specific-conditions and Customer Service Excellence, Elite Care Services feature comprehensive nursing oversight, geriatric care management, assistance with activities of daily living, a personalized Plan of Care and an in-home safety assessment by a licensed physical therapist, among other customized services.

Additional a la carte in-home services include weekly Medication Management, Case Management by a Social Worker and Rehabilitation Services. The agency has also introduced a one-hour Morning Bath Service that includes personal grooming and skin care. To learn more, download our Elite Services brochure at www.westchestercareathome.org or call 914-997-7912.



Elite Care Aides: Diane Cooper and Marilyn Robinson



Elite Care Services Introduced to Local Health Care Providers

WCAH's Elite Care Services were introduced at a recent Breakfast Buffet and Fall Fashion Show at Kanopi atop the Ritz-Carlton in White Plains, with 50 healthcare and social service colleagues attending. Following a presentation about the benefits of Elite Care, guests enjoyed a preview of fall fashions, provided by Neiman Marcus, and modeled by members of our home care team.



(l to r): Gianna Melly, Katie Killeen, Suzanne Mirando, Ana Rowe, Tai Griffith

In the Community

Spring Gala Raises Critical Funds for VNSW Programs

Approximately 215 people attended the VNSW Foundation's May 15th Spring Benefit Gala at the Willow Ridge Country Club, which raised over \$110,000 to support VNSW's programs and services. Support from our community is essential to ensure the continuation of programs such as Telehealth Remote Patient Monitoring, which are not reimbursed by Medicare or other government sources. Donations also support services for under-resourced populations in the communities we serve.

To make a donation, please use the enclosed postage-paid donation envelope.



(l to r): VNSW President/CEO Timothy P. Leddy; Gala Honorees: Dr. William T. Smith, President/CEO, Aging in America, Inc.; Westchester Care At Home RN, Gera Looser; Matthew Anderson, President/CEO, The Osborn; and Master of Ceremonies, Ken Buffa, Westchester Reporter, NBC4NY.

New Affiliation with NYU's School of Nursing



VNSW has been chosen as a clinical site for students enrolled in the Doctorate of Nursing Practice (DNP) program at NYU's Rory Meyers College of Nursing. Through this collaboration, students will complete a scholarly research project on a critical issue in healthcare under the guidance of a designated mentor from VNSW's clinical nursing team. VNSW is proud to collaborate on this program of study that prepares students at the highest academic level for careers in advanced clinical practice and nursing leadership.

Flu Vaccination Program Offered this Fall

To help foster preventative health in our region, VNSW is offering our annual Flu Vaccination Program on-site at local businesses, senior buildings, schools, assisted living and other facilities and houses of worship.



Having our VNSW Registered Nurse administer flu vaccinations at your location is a convenience that encourages more employees, students and community members to protect themselves against the flu, thereby reducing the number of sick days taken and the lost productivity. For more information, email mdellicarpini@vns.org

County Officials Visit VNSW Patient

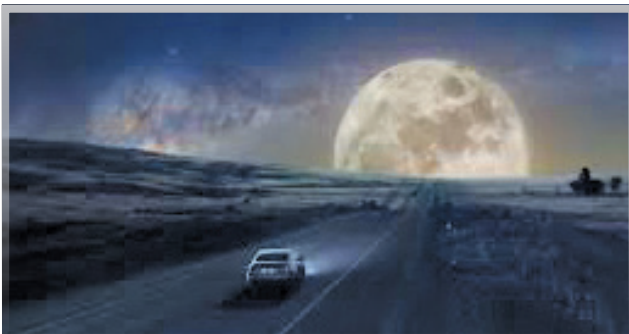
VNSW patient, Karen Tutnauer, received a special visit from Westchester County Executive, George Latimer, and the County's Commissioner of Senior Programs and Services, Mae Carpenter, during last summer's heat wave. Both officials stressed the importance of checking on our elderly and ailing neighbors during times of excessive heat to ensure their safety. Home care visits help ensure that seniors are not showing signs of dehydration and that they have sufficient cooling systems in the home.



(L to r): VNSW President/CEO, Tim Leddy; VNSW RN, Diana Valdes; Karen Tutnauer; Mae Carpenter and George Latimer

Did You Know?

In 2018, our field staff traveled 539,704 miles for patient visits. That is more than twice the distance from Earth to the moon and back!



WCAH Offers Free Home Health Aide Certification Training

WCAH received a grant from the NYS Department of Labor to provide free Home Health Aide Certification Training to unemployed individuals from the Bronx and Lower Westchester. Successful completion of the 13-day program leads to NYS Certification as a Home Health Aide and job opportunities at WCAH. Free round-trip transportation and gift cards for completing the program are among program incentives offered. The program is ongoing through spring 2020, with multiple courses offered. To learn more, email hrdept@vns.org

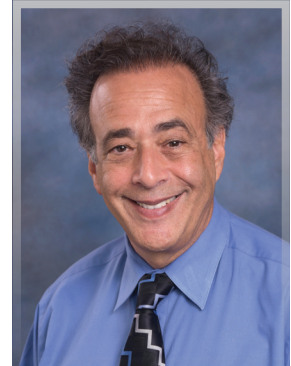
VNSW Nurse Honored

VNSW Registered Nurse, Phyllis Lombardi, was honored with a "Nurse Recognition Award" at a reception held by The East Yonkers Kiwanis Club last May. Phyllis was recognized for going "above and beyond" to improve the health and well-being of Yonkers residents.



VNSW Rehab Director Elected to County Hall of Fame

VNSW Director of Rehabilitation Services, David Jagoda, will be inducted into the Westchester Senior Citizens Hall of Fame at an awards ceremony to be held at the Westchester Marriott on December 6th. The event, sponsored by the Westchester County Department of Senior Programs and Services, will honor David for his outstanding service to Westchester's seniors during his 40-year career as one of the premier Speech/Language Pathologists in our region.



VNSW Opens Dutchess Office

In Mid-May, VNSW opened a new office in Hopewell Junction. The agency decided to relocate our branch office from Putnam to Dutchess County due to the fast-rising growth in patient admissions in Dutchess. The new location makes it easier to reach patients in the northern counties we serve, and will help us foster new collaborations with local healthcare providers.



VNSW President Meets with NYS Senate Leader

VNSW President & CEO, Tim Leddy, recently met with NY State Senator and Majority Leader Andrea Stewart-Cousins, to discuss our agency's contributions to community health, as well as key issues affecting the home healthcare industry today.





360 Mamaroneck Ave.
White Plains, NY 10605
1-888-FOR-VNSW • 914-682-1480
2531 Route 52
Hopewell Junction, NY 12533
845-278-2550
vns.org
facebook.com/VNSWestchester 



A not-for-profit organization
supporting the programs and
services of VNS Westchester
914-682-1480, ext. 649



Westchester Care at Home
An affiliate of VNS Westchester
1-800-805-WCAH • 914-997-7912

NON PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
White Plains, NY
Permit No. 399

F A L L 2 0 1 9

on the Home Front

Westchester Visiting Nurse Services Group, Inc.

Board of Directors
2019-2020

Martin Considine
Chairperson

James Martell
Vice-Chairperson

Andrea McKay-Harris
Secretary

Jesse Rosenblatt
Treasurer

Michael J. Amoruso
Dr. Amy Ansehl
Richard J. Davidian
Richard D. Fenton
Leroy Francis
Camille Fremont
Deborah Gogliettino
Karen Herrero
Telka H. Howard
Dr. Arlene F. Rosen
Jessica Ansehl Steinberg
President & CEO
Timothy P. Leddy

VNSW/WCAH Re-Accredited by CHAP

VNS Westchester and Westchester Care at Home have been reaccredited by the Community Health Accreditation Program, Inc. (CHAP) through 2022. CHAP accreditation demonstrates that our agencies meet the industry's highest nationally recognized standards in the categories of home care service we provide.



VNSW 2018 Annual Report Available



For a summary of VNSW and WCAH news, activities and a "By the Numbers" review of 2018, visit vns.org to download our latest annual report.