



VNS Westchester
Bring the best care home

Also serving the Bronx,
Dutchess, Putnam & Rockland

on the Home Front

SUMMER/FALL 2013



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We're Proud to Be #1 in Westchester



According to the most current data from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), VNS Westchester is the #1 home healthcare agency in Westchester. The data are based on CMS information indicating that the highest proportion of Medicare-covered patients needing home healthcare services chose VNS Westchester for two consecutive years. This trend continues in light of the 15% increase we are seeing in Medicare patient admissions so far this year vs. 2012.

Thank you to all of our patients, their families and caregivers for making us #1 in the County!

Spring Benefit Gala a Big Success!

A good time was had by all – and all for a good cause! See story on page 2.



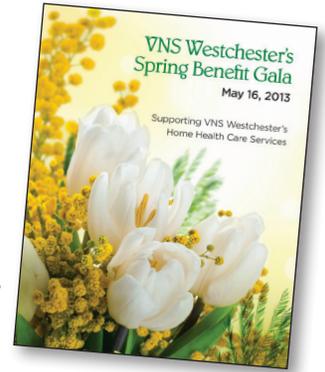


From left to right: Honorees Michael A. Baker and Dr. William A. Martimucci; Westchester Visiting Nurse Services Group Board Chair, Patricia W. Siebecker; Honoree Richard H. McCarthy; VNS Westchester President & CEO, Lou Nemnom; and Master of Ceremonies, Michael Gargiulo, Anchor, NBC4 NY.

Spring Benefit Gala Raises Funds for Patient Care

Over 200 people attended our May 16th Spring Benefit Gala, held at the Sunningdale Country Club in Scarsdale.

Proceeds will support our home healthcare services for the five counties we serve. Guests enjoyed cocktails on the patio, a delicious buffet dinner, a Silent Auction (the bidding was fierce for the Eli Manning signed football!), and an awards ceremony hosted by Westchester's own Michael Gargiulo, Anchor/Reporter at WNBC 4 NY.



This year we honored three outstanding individuals who have helped VNS Westchester enhance the health and well-being of the communities we serve:

Distinguished Service Award: **WILLIAM A. MARTIMUCCI, MD**, Internal Medicine & Geriatrics, The WESTMED Medical Group; Medical Director, The Osborn Retirement Community

Community Leadership Award: **MICHAEL A. BAKER**, First Vice-President, UBS Financial Services (retired); Partner, Susan Lawrence Gourmet Foods

Katharine McCloskey Wilson Award: **RICHARD H. MCCARTHY**, Westchester Visiting Nurse Services Group Board Member (retired)

Thanks to everyone who helped make this event a great success! A complete list of our contributors can be found at www.vns.org/donate/fundraising-events

*Your
Support
Makes a
Difference*

We extend our thanks to Mrs. Judith Weinberg of Hartsdale who recently sent us a letter, along with her donation, citing the special care her husband received from one of our nurses:

"From the moment we returned from the hospital, VNS Westchester was ready for us. The quality of the nursing care - the skills, responsibility, patience - everything was exemplary. We owe a special thank you to Kathy Byrne, the nurse that has been with us from the outset. She represents your agency at the highest level."

Please join Mrs. Weinberg by supporting our home healthcare services. You may use the postage-paid envelope in the centerfold, or submit a donation at our secure website: www.vns.org/donate

Building for the Future

Welcome to our New Board Members

Our Board of Directors recently appointed six new members who bring diverse skills and experience to our agencies. Their expertise and understanding of community needs will help us continue to deliver the highest level of care in the most cost-effective way for our patients.

MICHAEL J. AMORUSO, ESQ., is a Partner at Amoruso & Amoruso, an elder law practice in Rye Brook.

JESSICA ANSEHL is Senior Manager in the Global Beverages Group at PepsiCo in Purchase and a former consultant with CSC Global Health Solutions.

CHRISTOPHER J. AVENTURO, ESQ., is a Partner at Keane & Beane, P.C., an elder law practice in White Plains.

TELKA A. HOWARD of Poughquag in Dutchess County, is a former Verizon telecommunications executive and is an active leader at several local nonprofit organizations.

CHRISTINE MONROE of Suffern in Rockland County is Associate Executive Director for Finance and Administration at ARC of Rockland in Congers.

NANCY J. RUDOLPH, ESQ., is a Partner at the law firm, Bleakley Platt & Schmidt in White Plains, handling trusts and estates.

Read more about our new board members in the "News and Events" section of our web site at www.vns.org



We've Expanded... Now Serving Residents in Five Counties

Earlier this year, the NYS Department of Health granted VNS Westchester a license to expand our home healthcare services to residents of the Bronx, Dutchess, and Rockland in addition to Westchester and Putnam counties.

According to VNS Westchester President & CEO, **LOU NEMNOM**:

"The state granted our license to expand because we strengthen communities. We help patients to stay at home, we relieve the anxiety of caregivers, we serve as a partner with local healthcare institutions, and we close the gaps in transitions of care that make Medicaid and Medicare budgets balloon. We become part of the fabric in every community we serve."

We continue to add new members to our clinical team to ensure the highest level of care to our patients in all five counties. Interested in a career at VNS Westchester? Check out opportunities at: www.vns.org/careers

In the Community



VNS Westchester Home Health Intake Coordinator, Terry Wysocki (center) at the Osborn Retirement Community with Osborn staff members, Social Worker Noreen Vivolo (left), and Michele Schreer, Director of Social Services (right).

Home Health Care Liaisons Smooth Transitions Back Home

Most people know that VNS Westchester provides care in the home setting. But, did you know that our care actually begins before our services get under way? Located on-site at approximately 50 healthcare facilities in Westchester, Putnam and adjoining counties, VNS Westchester's team of **HOME HEALTH INTAKE COORDINATORS (HHICs)**, also referred to as **HOME HEALTH CARE LIAISONS**, helps patients to safely transition from hospitals, rehabilitation and skilled nursing facilities back home where they continue to recover through our home health care services. Our HHICs are registered nurses specially trained to work with physicians, discharge planners, and social workers to assess the level and type of care we will provide to patients to manage their illness and maintain their independence at home. They also work closely with the patient, family member or other caregiver

to discuss the plan of care that may include skilled nursing, rehabilitation, home health aide and social work services.

Our team of HHICs is integral to our coordinated care approach which makes a tremendous difference in allowing patients to manage their care needs once they are discharged from a healthcare facility. As demand continues to grow for our home care services we are bringing more HHICs on board to coordinate patient care in additional facilities throughout the five counties we serve.

For a list of on-site locations where you can find our Home Health Intake Coordinators, visit: www.vns.org and click on "Affiliated Healthcare Organization" under "About Us."

Saluting Community Partners

VNS Westchester works closely with other community healthcare providers to coordinate care for our patients as they transition from healthcare facilities. On June 11, we co-hosted a reception with **THE BRISTAL ASSISTED LIVING**, to express our thanks to over 60 health care professionals from Westchester and adjoining counties. The event, held at the Mamaroneck Beach & Yacht Club, offered the opportunity to get acquainted and reconnect with colleagues in an informal setting, while talking about ways to enhance patient care.



From left to right: VNS Westchester Director of Community Education, Mary Gadomski; and The Bristol's Susan Yubas, Director of Business Development; Joseph Abbamonte, Director of Community Relations; and Halina McLean, Executive Director.

Upcoming Events

VNS Westchester is proud to co-sponsor these free programs with community partners:

Just the Facts on Medicaid Managed Care

Wednesday, September 18, 2013; 8-11am
800 Westchester Ave., 5th Fl., Rye Brook

Co-sponsored with Amoruso & Amoruso LLP, this program for healthcare professionals covers policies, approaches and issues relating to Medicaid managed care. Speakers: Mark Kissinger, Director, Division of Long Term Care, NYS Department of Health, and other experts from the Department of Social Services, Archcare, Elderplan and AgeWell.

RSVP to Joan Mooney at 914-253-9255 or Joan@amorusolaw.com

Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Options for Your Aging Loved One But Were Afraid to Ask!

Thursday, October 24, 2013; 6-7:30pm
The Kensington, 100 Maple Ave., White Plains

Co-sponsored with The Kensington Assisted Living, this program for adult caregivers and well spouses will cover care at home vs. senior living communities, paying for care, use of professionals for elder care planning and other caregiver resources. Speakers: Brenda Moynihan, Director of Community Outreach, The Kensington; Joann Parliament, Director of Admissions, VNS Westchester.

RSVP by October 14th to The Kensington: 914-220-4259 or click on Upcoming Events at www.TheKensingtonAL.com



Putnam Branches Out



VNS Westchester's Putnam Branch has branched out! Starting in January 2013, we extended our services to Dutchess County from our Putnam office in Brewster, part of our agency's expansion to surrounding counties. In addition to filling gaps in home healthcare for Dutchess residents, this was welcome news to several of our clinical staff members who reside in the county and now have the opportunity to care for their neighbors. Their familiarity with the region is a tremendous asset in providing optimal care for patients in the towns and rural sections of the county.

Over the past six months, we have visited nursing homes, assisted living facilities, hospitals and medical practices in the region to introduce ourselves and our services. **In July we appointed a member of our clinical team to serve as our Dutchess County liaison**, a means of expanding these relationships and fostering coordinated patient care. We have also increased the size of our clinical staff in both nursing and rehabilitation specialties to ensure that Dutchess and Putnam residents alike have access to the full scope of services we provide.

For more information on our home health care services and community outreach initiatives in Putnam and Dutchess counties, call 1-855-4-PUTNAM.

Respite Care

Help for Those Helping Others



Oftentimes family members serve as the primary caregivers for loved ones needing care at home. But what happens when the caregiver needs a break to go on vacation, to a wedding or other important event, or simply needs a few hours to take care of personal business?

At times like these, our affiliate licensed home health care agency, **WESTCHESTER CARE AT HOME (WCAH)**, can step in to help through their Respite Care Program. Through this initiative, WCAH'S certified home health aides provide temporary help with personal care, light housekeeping, laundry, and meal preparation when you need to be away. They can care for your loved one in your home, visit them at a health care facility, or serve as an on-site aide if your loved one will be traveling with you.

Flexible scheduling is one of WCAH's unique services, setting the agency apart from others. There are no minimum hours or days of service required, and no contracts to sign. The staff is dedicated to customizing a schedule that works for you, no matter how short or long, whether for an hour or around the clock.

For more information about Respite Care and other WCAH services, call 914-997-7912.

VNSW/WCAH ANNUAL REPORT – FY 2012

VNSW Patients Served

		Growth over FY 2011
(unduplicated)	6,675	+2.3%
VNSW Patient Admissions	7,030	+2.1%
WCAH Hours of Service	399,723	+1.5%

VNSW Visits By Discipline

Nursing	88,558
Home Health Aide	40,985
Physical Therapy	37,091
Occupational Therapy	5,843
Social Work Service	2,729
Speech Therapy	1,690
Complementary Care	68
Total Visits	176,964

Patients by Age, Group and Gender

Age	Male	Female	Totals
Under 21	97	98	195
21-64	582	785	1,367
65 and over	1,763	3,340	5,103
Totals	2,442	4,233	6,675

Top Ten Diagnoses Treated in 2012

1	Wounds
2	Orthopedic Disorders
3	Mental Health Disorders
4	Cardiac Disease
5	Neurological Disorders
6	Circulatory Disorders
7	Respiratory Diseases
8	Cancer
9	Diabetes
10	Infection

Sources of Net Revenue

Medicare	67%
Medicaid	16%
Managed Care and Other	17%

VNSW/WCAH Statement of Operations and Change in Net Assets

Revenue, Gains and Other Support	FY 2012	FY 2011	% Change
Net Patient Service Revenue	\$36,309,893	\$33,502,934	8.4%
Other Operating Revenue	\$1,898	\$354,731	
Total Revenue	\$36,311,791	\$33,857,665	7.2%
Expenses	\$35,988,669	\$35,618,411	1.1%
Gain (Loss) from Operations	\$313,122	(\$1,760,746)	
Change in Net Assets	\$379,736	(\$1,488,858)	

Visiting Nurse Services in Westchester and Westchester Care at Home

Number of Employees and Independent Contractors	556
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1.888.FOR.VNSW

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Brewster, NY 10509
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1.855.4.PUTNAM

Westchester Care at Home
(An affiliate of VNS Westchester)
914.997.7912
1.800.305.WCAH

on the Home Front

SUMMER/FALL 2013

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Accreditation
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Save the Dates!

Register today for free community programs...

For Healthcare Professionals:

September 18, 2013

Just the Facts on Medicaid Managed Care

For Adult Caregivers:

October 17, 2013

Everything You Always Wanted to Know About Options for Your Aging Loved One But Were Afraid to Ask!



See page 5.

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