



VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION
OF SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT, INC.

News Release

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For Immediate Release

Valley United Way Grant Provides Home Health Nurses with New Equipment for Valley Patients

Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut Receives \$5,000 from Valley United Way

New Haven, CT (June 8, 2009) – As the recipient of a \$5,000 Special Needs Grant from the Valley United Way, the Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut (VNA/SCC) will be able to purchase 10 pulse oximeters, used to measure patients' oxygen levels, and 3 PT/INR (Prothrombin Time and International Normalized Ratio) machines, used to evaluate the ability of the blood to clot properly.

The measurement of oxygen level helps the VNA/SCC nurses to identify whether Congestive Heart Failure (CHF) patients' hearts are pumping efficiently enough to provide vitally needed oxygenated blood. The measurement of PT/INR allows our nurses to assess the ability of a patient's blood to clot properly and the effect of blood thinning drugs on this process. This is especially important with patients who have had a heart attack, stroke or recent surgery. The VNS/SCC's team of home health care nurses and therapists that serve the Valley will utilize this equipment to assist in providing optimal patient care.

“As the original VNA in the Valley, we thank the Valley United Way for awarding us this special needs grant and helping us to continue our mission of providing high quality care,” said Carla Giugno, VNA/SCC's Vice President, Clinical Services. “The grant monies will directly benefit our home health care patients in the Valley, by enabling us to have the latest medical technology readily available to serve their needs. This ensures that Valley residents will receive the best quality care in the comfort of their homes.”

About The Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut

Founded in 1904, the VNA/SCC, the original VNA of New Haven, Milford and the Valley, is a state licensed, non-profit, community based home health care agency. The VNA/SCC staff consists of highly skilled nurses, therapists, medical social workers and home health aides. A vital resource to the communities it serves, the VNA/SCC provides a wide range of specialized clinical services, community programs, the Nurturing Families Network and subsidized care to those who are in need. The agency employs over 240 staff members, has an average daily census of over 1,000 patients and makes over 150,000 home visits per year. The agency is the founder of the Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing. The VNA/SCC is supported in part by The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, local United Way organizations, corporate sponsors and individual donors. The agency has a private-duty affiliate, CareSource. CareSource strives to maximize the quality of life for its clients and their caregivers in the home and health care settings. Their services include private duty nursing, homemakers, companions and live-in home health aides. Both VNA/SCC and CareSource are CHAP (Community Health Accreditation Program) accredited. To learn more about the organizations, log onto www.vnascc.org or www.caresourceinc.org. To view quality information about VNA/SCC, as reported by Medicare, log onto www.medicare.gov and click on the link: Compare Home Care Agencies.

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