

making best days possible.

2023 Report to the Community

# Thank you for supporting VNA Hospice NWI through another impactful year.





History is a wonderful teacher, particularly about how businesses adapt to changing times.

Take Prohibition, for example. When no longer permitted to make beer, Anheuser-Busch produced nutritional supplements for new mothers, made ice cream – and built the trucks to deliver it. Some might also say it started the craft beer market by packaging and selling malt syrups and yeast under the auspice of baking supplies, thus becoming the largest supplier for home brewers in the country. Many wives were probably disappointed that their husbands' newfound interest in baking was so misguided, but that is adaptation!

VNA Hospice NWI is at a similar crossroads. For health care providers COVID has caused the very ground under our feet to shift drastically; in fact, the ground continues to move and only time will tell just how much things have changed; but changed they have. This is especially true for nonprofit hospices. Some recent data suggests that as few as 10% of hospices operating today are nonprofit. Large capital, private equity investors have taken over the industry, scheming on how to make death lucrative and profitable. Frankly, it's grotesque, and now more than ever we are in the fierce battle to preserve this nonprofit resource for our community. The road to preservation and growth is adaptation.

This year the VNA Hospice invites you to help us Reimagine Aging. We must adapt not only for the sake of long-term sustainability, but because the needs of our community demand it. People want to remain in their homes as long as possible but require more resources to do so. Caregivers are struggling to provide the resources and support their loved ones require and are looking to us, here at the VNA, for answers. We must adapt to this growing demand and use all the resources at our disposal including technology, innovation, fundraising and most importantly our compassion.

We ask for your support, feedback, and willingness to join us in this noble effort to Reimagine Aging.

Robert Franko

Dan Marchetti

2023 Board of Directors

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### making best days possible.

VNA Hospice NWI preserves dignity in aging by helping seniors remain in their homes and in charge of their medical decisions for as long as possible.

Why Choose the VNA?

Mission above profit.

We offer best-in-class care and peace of mind to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay Serving Lake, LaPorte, Jasper, Newton, Porter and Starke Counties

#### 2023 Financial Reporting

Total Revenue from Services	\$6 million
Total Cost of Care Expenses	\$8.4 million
Community Care Contributions	
Community Support and Foundation Revenue	\$826,600
Scholarships Awarded	\$10,000

Programs of VNA Hospice are made possible in part through generous grants from the following:

















Thank you to our donors, sponsors, and volunteers who make it possible to serve nearly 650 people a day through our various programs and services.

To see a full list of VNA supporters, please visit vnanwi.org/give

To support these lifechanging services, scan to make a gift online at vnanwi.org/give or by using the enclosed envelope.



### The VNA Forever Society

A special group of friends who:

Understand that VNA can provide generous community care contributions only through generous community support

Want to ensure a strong tomorrow for vulnerable members of our community

Want to make a personal, lasting difference in our community

The VNA Forever Society honors those who have included the VNA Foundation in their estate plan, with a future gift through their will, life insurance, retirement plan, trust arrangement, or have made an outright gift to the VNA Foundation endowment fund.

Contributions to the VNA Foundation support all of the VNA Hospice NWI programs – Hospice, Palliative Care, Meals on Wheels, Medical Guardian help button, We Honor Veterans, Grief Support including the Phoenix Center for grieving children, and so much more.

To become a member of the VNA Forever Society or for more information, please contact the VNA Development Office at (219) 531-8078.



VNA Hospice Care is integrated, person-centered end-of-life care for individuals facing a terminal illness.

Non-profit hospices provide patients with 10% more nursing visits, 35% more social worker visits, and twice as many therapy visits versus for-profit hospices.







In-home care: 18,967 visits = 13,585 hours of care provided



Arthur B. and Ethel V. Horton VNA Hospice Center: 2,585 visits = 1,979 hours of care provided

VNA is 1 of only 7 providers in Indiana with an in-patient hospice center.



726
patients served



74 hospice volunteers



1,274
ndividuals received grief support



151



VNA Palliative Care a specialized form of medical care and coordination for anyone who is facing a life-limiting illness.



**ZZ4** 



1,147

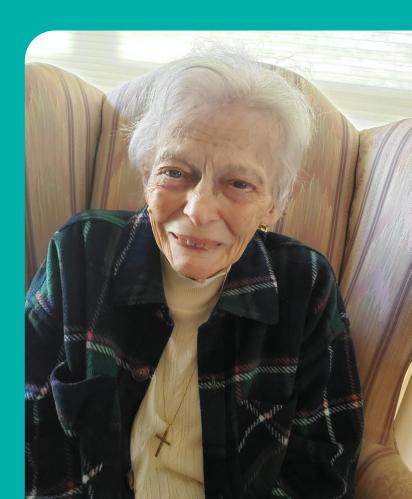


**1,053** 

VNA Hospice NWI is the only ACHC Accredited palliative care provider in the state of Indiana.

#### Client Vera J., 99 years old

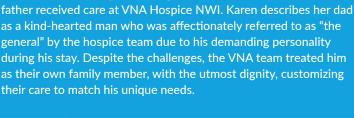
Vera has used VNA Palliative Care for 2 years. She never knew that such an amazing service was available to help keep her living independently. After falling and a trip to rehab, Vera was able to come home, and enjoys having her nurse Dani visit and coordinate all of her medical care.



### **Finding Peace: A Journey** Through VNA Hospice NWI

In the guiet corridors of VNA Hospice Northwest Indiana, stories of love and comfort unfold, leaving an indelible mark on the lives of those who have experienced the compassionate care provided by the dedicated team. The Davich family's experience is one of many stories that illustrate the personal care provided by the VNA.

The family's hospice journey began in 2003 when Karen Davich's as a kind-hearted man who was affectionately referred to as "the general" by the hospice team due to his demanding personality during his stay. Despite the challenges, the VNA team treated him as their own family member, with the utmost dignity, customizing



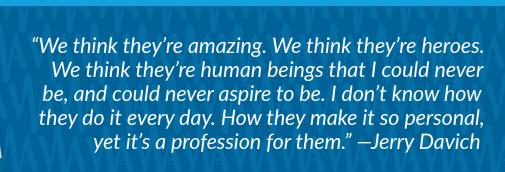


In April 2023, this journey continued when Jerry Davich's mother, Nancy, found comfort within the walls of VNA Hospice after battling terminal cancer. Jerry noted that as soon as Nancy arrived at the hospice, she appeared calm and at ease, something the family had not seen at the hospital. In contrast to that sterile and uncomfortable environment, the hospice provided a home-like atmosphere where everyone could freely express themselves and spend time together as a family. Judi Posiadlik, Jerry's sister, adds that they sometimes had up to twenty people in the room, and the lack of strict rules created a space where joy and sorrow could coexist. "This was our home, and it felt good," added Karen. The staff's professionalism and personal touch transformed a challenging time into a peaceful and dignified experience that ran the entire spectrum of emotions.

As we navigate the complexities of life and loss, let us draw inspiration from the Davich family's journey—a journey marked by love, resilience, and the enduring power of compassion. In the embrace of VNA Hospice NWI, may we find solace amidst the inevitable tide of change, knowing that in the gentle hands of caregivers, our loved ones find peace, dignity, and rest.



Scan the QR code to watch the video about the Davich family's heartfelt journey through VNA Hospice NWI.





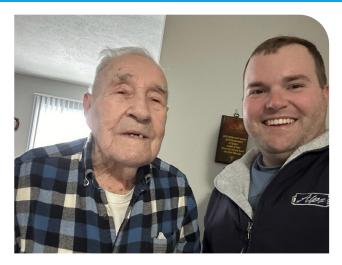
VNA Meals on Wheels ensures seniors and individuals with disabilities maintain their independence by delivering a hot, nutritious meal with a well-being check.

53,106









In November, Larry turned 104 years old! Larry lives alone and has great health. But when VNA Meals on Wheels Volunteer, Justin, wished Larry a Happy Birthday, Larry replied, "It's just another day." Well Larry, we think turning 104 is pretty special so Justin brought some chocolate cake and a birthday card along with Larry's meal to celebrate.

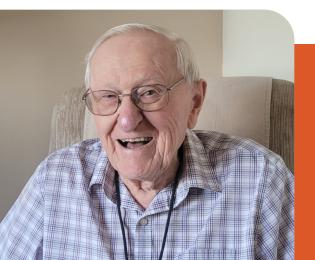
In 2021, VNA received its first Meals on Wheels Loves Pets Grant to establish the VNA Kibble Kitchen. Current VNA Meals on Wheels clients and their furry companions were provided with food, treats, supplies, and veterinary services. Over the course of the program, VNA received 3 Meals on Wheels Loves Pets grants totaling \$22,500 to serve our furry friends. We are extremely grateful to Meals on Wheels America and PETSMART Charities, the many donors, and especially the volunteers that helped make the VNA Kibble Kitchen possible over the past two and a half years. The **VNA Kibble Kitchen made BEST DAYS** POSSIBLE for so many.





**Medical Guardian** 

VNA Medical Guardian help button provides 24/7 help at the touch of a button to help individuals continue living independently despite illness or disability.



#### Client Wayne M., 94 years old

Having the VNA, Medical Guardian help button allows Wayne to keep living independently in his home while giving his three children, Donna, Stan, and Diane peace of mind. After falling twice, Wayne knew getting the help button was the right decision for him.









**Phoenix Center** 

VNA Phoenix Center provides activity-based peer support groups in a safe and supportive environment for children, teens, young adults, and their families as they grieve.







This year in addition to our regular bi-monthly support groups, the Phoenix Center hosted a variety of themed family fun nights including Disney, Carnival Games and Trick-or-treating. We also received a generous donation from Chesterton Feed and Garden Center for each family to decorate a terracotta pots and planted sunflower seeds in honor of their lost loved one.



**We Honor Veterans** 

VNA Hospice NWI is a proud partner in the national We Honor Veterans program. Hosting two veteran resource fairs, we recognize the unique needs of veterans and their families during their end-of-life journey towards a more peaceful ending.









VNA Meals on Wheels Volunteer
John Conlisk was recognized as the 2023
Valparaiso Kiwanis Club's Volunteer of the
Year. John has volunteered with VNA Meals
on Wheels for 12 years and delivers meals
4-5 days a week. John drives over 8,100
miles in a year delivering meals, including
holidays when he brings extra treats and
small gifts to his clients. John provides the
VNA with volunteer work equal to 6 people.
We are so appreciative and honored to
have John's support. He truly Makes
Best Days Possible.



## 2023 Report to the Community

Thank you for making best days possible.

for seniors throughout NWI!

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Crown Point Office 1450 E. Joliet Street Suite 104 Crown Point, IN 46307

Call (219) 462-5195 Fax (219) 548-0945 www.vnanwi.org



VNA Hospice NWI hospice and palliative care programs are ACHC Accredited.







