

Community of Caring

News for Friends of the VNA & Hospice Foundation

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1110 35th Lane
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772.567.5551
www.vnatc.com

28th Annual Golf-A-Thon is Promised to be a Tee-rrific Event!



The Golf-A-Thon is teeing off for its 28th annual fundraiser, which will be held on May 7th at Riomar Country Club. This unique event partners with donors to ensure VNA can continue to provide home health and hospice services to our friends and neighbors who lack the financial resources to obtain the care they desperately need and deserve.

The Golf-A-Thon would not be able to take place without the dedication of our amazing volunteers. These individuals work tirelessly for months to raise money and encourage their friends, neighbors and community to support one or more of the golf pros who participate in the Golf-A-Thon. The commitment of these volunteers to this event demonstrates their passion for making home care and hospice services available to everyone.

The VNA & Hospice Foundation Golf-A-Thon committee members, board and staff are especially thankful to the 12 golf pros who have once again committed

to an astounding 135 holes of golf. With the ocean as their backdrop, these pros will play from the early morning hours until dusk in a joint effort to raise money for charitable healthcare.

This year, the golf pros who have partnered with the VNA include:

Patrick Cerjan from Pointe West Country Club, Matthew Challenor from Windsor Club, Bob Gruber from The Moorings Club, Drew DiSesa from Riomar Country Club, Pat Gorman from Bent Pine Golf Club, Randy Hedgecock from Vero Beach Country Club, Steve Hudson from John's Island Club, Joe Kern from Grand Harbor Club, Ian Killen from Indian River Club, Don Meadows from Quail Valley Golf Club, Bela Nagy from Sandridge Golf Club and Rich Waage from Orchid Island Golf Club.

To support one of the fantastic golf pros who have volunteered their time to raise money for charitable healthcare, please visit www.vnatc.com/golfathon.

Planned Giving Team Grows

The VNA & Hospice Foundation is excited to welcome two additions to the organization who will elevate the organization's planned giving program.



Kathryn Barton

Kathryn Barton joined the VNA & Hospice Foundation's board of directors and brings an extensive background in finance and planned giving. Kathryn is a certified public accountant and financial planner with Offutt Barton Schlitt LLC, a member of the Planned Giving Council and Indian River Estate Planning Council and has previously served as chair of the Florida Institute of Certified Public Accountants' Estate and Financial Planning Council.



Patricia Knipper

Patricia Knipper is the VNA & Hospice Foundation's major and planned giving officer and has two decades of corporate and donor-focused fundraising, strategic marketing and business development experience in the healthcare industry. Patricia's role is to understand what is important to the Foundation's donors and connect them with VNA programs to ensure the donor's legacy.

VNA Associates Give Back

Nothing demonstrates the giving nature of VNA associates more than the Associate Appeal. This appeal is solely funded through contributions by VNA staff members, and associates can elect their gift to be designated for either the Associate Emergency Fund or charitable patient care.

The Associate Emergency Fund is a financial resource to assist colleagues who have suffered a catastrophic loss. Since 2013, the Associate Emergency Fund has provided financial assistance to 39 individuals. This fund has helped cover mortgage or rent payments, medical bills, car repairs and restoration to homes due to damage caused by hurricanes Matthew and Irma. That's 39 employees who dedicate their lives to helping others who would have had to turn elsewhere to make ends meet if this fund did not exist.

It's impossible to predict when difficult times will occur. Through the Associate Appeal, VNA employees give each other and their patients peace of mind.

Your Legacy... How Do You Want to be Remembered?

Estate planning is one of the most important things you will do in your lifetime. Charitable gifts are a way to reflect your interests and make a lasting contribution to an organization whose mission has meaning in your life and the lives of your loved ones. Whether you have been supporting the VNA throughout your lifetime, or considering a bequest in your will, it is important to know that the impact of your gift will extend way beyond your lifetime, leaving behind your legacy for many years to come.

Through a charitable gift, you can also benefit from potential savings on estate and/or capital gains taxes which can reduce the financial burden on your loved ones. The assets you transfer to a nonprofit remain outside of your taxable estate.

Giving is not just about making a donation...it's about making a difference.

To learn more about how you can make a difference in the lives of people served by VNA & Hospice Foundation, please contact Patricia Knipper, Major and Planned Giving Officer. 772.978.5574 (direct), 917.244.9029 (mobile) or pknipper@vnatc.com.

Ann Marie McCrystal Honored with Alumnus Distinction Award

VNA co-founder and board member, Ann Marie McCrystal, was honored with the Alumnus of Distinction Award from the University of Miami School of Nursing. The School of Nursing and Health Studies Alumnus Distinction Award honors alumni who, through the practice of nursing, have exemplified the professionalism, humanity and citizenship, which bring distinction to themselves, all alumni and the University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies. The annual award is presented as recognition for community achievement, public service, national and public recognition or prominent achievement.

"We are so proud of Ann Marie, whose work has improved the lives of so many in the region and changed the practice of palliative care in South Florida," said Cindy L. Munro, Dean and professor of the University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies.

"I am honored to have been named the 2017 Alumnus of the Year from the University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies," remarked Ann Marie. "My ongoing relationship with the school's faculty and students



Cindy L. Munro and Ann Marie McCrystal

has been a source of enrichment and focus that has had a positive impact on my personal, as well as my professional life."

Ann Marie's commitment to advocate for equitable patient care in Indian River County is demonstrated by her long history of volunteerism and philanthropy to our local healthcare infrastructure. She has been the chairman of the VNA & Hospice Foundation board of directors and lead a \$5 million endowment campaign to build the first Hospice House in our community. In 2016, she was appointed to the Indian River County Hospital District Board of Trustees by Governor Rick Scott.

Feeling Safer at Home with Technology

Falling is a common occurrence for adults ages 65 years and older. About one third of seniors will fall at least once a year, and that statistic only increases for those who are recovering from a surgery or injury. So, it's no surprise that elderly persons and those at risk for falling want to take steps to feel safer in their homes or on the go.

Last year, the VNA started offering Philips Lifeline medical alert devices to any individual who wants to add an extra layer of safety and comfort to their daily routine. Philips Lifeline medical alert devices will summon help, allow you to talk to a Philips Lifeline response associate through the device or can even detect falls and will call to see if there is an emergency. There are three different medical alert models available, and each model provides varying benefits depending of the needs of the client.

Lifeline doesn't solely benefit seniors; patients who are recovering from a recent surgery are also at high risk for



Lifeline's GoSafe medical alert system

falling. Weakness during recovery and side effects from medications are prominent factors that could lead to a fall with devastating outcomes. Patients can further injure themselves and be readmitted to the hospital in even worse condition than before.

For more information about Lifeline, please call 772.453.2639 or visit vnatc.com/lifeline.



Paying Tribute to Those We Love

Honor the memory of your loved one by memorializing them with an engraved granite plaque to be displayed in the VNA Hospice House memorial area, appropriately named, A Place For Remembering.

To purchase a tribute plaque, call 772.978.5568 or visit vnatc.com



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Wish List *The VNA & Hospice Foundation seeks contributions to support ongoing priorities:*

Littmann Electronic Stethoscopes: 2 at \$500 each

This tool gives family members the opportunity to keep the invaluable sound of their loved one's heartbeat forever. The VNA music therapists will incorporate the stethoscope into their therapeutic practices.

Expansion of Telehealth Program: \$100,000

Expansion of Telehealth Program to provide care and education for patients with multiple chronic diseases. Telehealth keeps patients out of the hospital and teaches them how to more effectively manage their illnesses. Grant requests have been submitted, but an additional \$100,000 is needed to launch the program.

Pillboxes: \$4 each – up to 1,000 pillboxes

The VNA has an ongoing need for pillboxes for medication education and compliance. Properly understanding their medication regimen will ensure patients' safety and health.

Hospice House Generator: \$3,125 per hour /\$300,000 total

Replacement for the VNA Hospice House generator and fuel tanks is vital to ensuring residents and families at the hospice house are safe during and after a storm. These patients require 24/7 support, and having power is necessary in delivering the care they need. A 96-hour generator means \$3,125 for one hour of peace of mind.

To support any of these programs, please make your check payable to the VNA and Hospice Foundation and select the specific designation of your gift on the enclosed remittance envelope. We will use the gift as you intend. If you have questions, please call Michelle Deschane at 978.5568. Thank you!

Your Foundation Services Team

We are here when you need us, and accessible to you by phone or email.

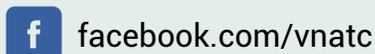


Kerry A. Bartlett, CFRE, MBA
Vice President, Foundation
P: 772.978.5580
E: kbartlett@vnatc.com



Beverly Smith, CFRE
Director of Donor Relations
P: 772.978.5573
E: bsmith@vnatc.com

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