

Making Referrals:

With expanded services and territories, the goal of VNS of Connecticut is to meet all of your home care needs with the same commitment to high quality, professional services you've experienced.

Call us 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week to make a referral and we will take care of the rest. Our intake motto is, "*One call, problem solved.*"

1.800.551.8671 (VNS1)
www.vnsct.org



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*Serving Fairfield, Litchfield
and New Haven Counties*

NewsUPDATE

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Eight Graduate from Geriatric Care Program

VNS continues to solidify its position as the region's primary geriatric care provider with the recent graduation of eight agency staff members from Fairfield University's ELDER project. VNS is the sole greater Bridgeport home care agency participating in the ELDER project, which provides advanced instruction on how best to meet the health care needs of elderly patients. The three-year program combines content from a variety of leading sources to produce an innovative approach to geriatric care. The goals of the program include improved practices by RNs and LPNs; improved assessment, communications and reporting skills; greater teamwork among providers, and improved coordination among agencies providing care. VNS' most recent graduates included Suzanne Vastano, Collette Sengupta, Luisa Frances, Cherylee Norko, Kim Edwards, Jackie Roth, Danielle Saravia and Tom Feliconio.

VNS Hosts Japanese Health Leaders

Nearly three dozen health care leaders from Japan visited VNS recently to learn more about the American home care model. The Japanese visitors told agency leaders they chose VNS because of its longstanding reputation as one of the nation's top home care providers. Their three-day stay included stops at Lord Chamberlain Manor for a tour and lecture by medical director, Dr. Robert Sbriglio (below right), as well as a visit to Saint Vincent's Medical Center, where they were greeted by hospital president Susan Davis (below left). More on the international visit on page 2.



Doctor Vanoni: Respect Key to Patient Care

Retired Torrington physician, Dr. Frank Vanoni, was the guest speaker at this month's 98th VNS of Connecticut Annual Meeting held in Shelton. Some 125 staff, volunteers, board members and other agency supporters gathered for the celebration. Dr. Vanoni, who was instrumental in establishing VNS's Torrington branch office, talked about the importance of respect in the patient healing process. VNS is one of Connecticut's largest nonprofit, community-based home care providers, serving residents of 49 cities and towns in Fairfield, New Haven and Litchfield counties.



VNS Notes...

VNS has expanded its service offerings recently with the addition of the **VoiceCare 24 personal emergency response system**. The system uses a two-way voice console and a light-weight activator in pendant, belt or wrist configurations to provide patients a way to contact emergency personnel in the event they are hurt while at home by themselves. The new VoiceCare 24 system offers a variety of features not previously offered through earlier emergency response systems. Physicians, patients and their family members can obtain more information about the VoiceCare 24 system by contacting VNS' Partners in Care private duty service at 203.378.8444.



The agency is also looking to grow its use of **telemonitoring services** because of the success it has encountered in using the system to track patient conditions and changes in their health. The use of telemonitoring has helped VNS to reduce the incidence of re-hospitalization by double digits for patients with Congestive Heart Failure. And the service is becoming more favorably considered by insurance payers, including Medicaid and Medicare. Physicians, hospital staff and other health care professionals are urged to consider home telemonitoring for patients whose conditions could benefit from such a service.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Stop by our Fall Provider Reception at our Trumbull branch for refreshments and a big *'Thank You'* from

VNS of Connecticut
November 15, 2007
4-6:30 p.m.
40 Lindeman Drive
Trumbull, Connecticut

Call for directions, Joanne at 203.330.5474

American Home Care Model Impresses Japanese

Health officials in Japan have successfully reduced their nation's average hospital length of stay from a high of 40 days to 20 days, but more needs to be done to reduce health care costs. Toward that end, 33 Japanese health officials and journalists visited VNS and its provider partners Lord Chamberlain Manor and St. Vincent's Medical Center in August. The contingent left impressed with the U.S. home care model and plans to implement many of its elements into Japan's home care system. Prior to their departure the group posed with some VNS staff and agency President, William Sullivan, Jr., (far right) outside of VNS's Bridgeport headquarters.



Questions? Don't hesitate to call Lou Carpino at 203.330.5507 or Mark Chudwick at 203.330.5538.

A Complete Continuum of Care

Whether the need is skilled care, compassionate end-of-life care or private-duty personal care, VNS has the resources to meet these needs. We use the latest in technology to supplement our expert, personalized approach to patient home care.

OUR SERVICES

Core Services

Skilled Nursing
Physical Therapy
Occupational Therapy
Speech Therapy
Medical Social Work
Home Health Aides

Value-Added Technology

Home Health Telemonitoring
VoiceCare 24 personal emergency response system

Hospice & Palliative Care

End-of-Life Care
Pain & Symptom Management
Grief Counseling
Support Groups

Our Specialty Services

Hi-Tech Home IV Therapy
Wound Care/Wound Vac/Ostomy Care
Psychiatric Nursing
Nutritionists
Elder Care Planning & Coordination
Care for the Caregiver
Pain Management Services
Free Needs Assessment

Personal Care & Quality of Life Services

Bathing and Personal Assistance
Live-Ins, Sleep-Ins
Companion/Homemaker



Towns now served by VNS of Connecticut

Ansonia	Litchfield	Shelton
Barkhamsted	Middlebury	Southbury
Beacon Falls	Milford	Southport
Bethany	Monroe	Stamford
Bethel	Morris	Stratford
Bethlehem	Naugatuck	Thomaston
Bridgeport	New Canaan	Torrington
Darien	New Hartford	Trumbull
Derby	New Haven	Watertown
East Haven	Newtown	West Haven
Easton	North Haven	Weston
Fairfield	Norwalk	Westport
Goshen	Orange	Wilton
Greenwich	Oxford	Winchester
Hamden	Roxbury	Winsted
Harwinton	Seymour	Woodbridge
		Woodbury

