For Immediate Release
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Community VNA Hospice Care Recognized as a We Honor Veterans Partner

**Attleboro, Massachusetts** — As the nation, state and region prepare to celebrate Veterans Day, **Community Visiting Nurse Agency, Inc.** (Community VNA) is proud to announce its Hospice Care program has become a national partner of We Honor Veterans, a pioneering campaign developed by National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

It may surprise many people to learn that 25 percent of those who die every year in the U.S. are Veterans. To help provide care and support that reflect the important contributions made by these men and women, Community VNA Hospice Care will implement ongoing Veteran-centered education for their staff and volunteers to help improve the care they provide to the Veterans they proudly serve. The nation is seeing many of the Veterans who served in World War II and Korea pass away—and the number of deaths of Vietnam Veterans is beginning to rise.

The We Honor Veterans campaign provides tiered recognition to organizations that demonstrate a systematic commitment to improving care for Veterans. “Partners” can assess their ability to serve Veterans and, using resources provided as part of the campaign, integrate best practices for providing end-of-life care to Veterans into their organization. By recognizing the needs of our local Veterans who are facing a life-limiting illness, Community VNA Hospice Care is better able to accompany and guide Veterans and their families toward a more peaceful ending. And in cases where there might be some specific needs related to the Veteran’s military service, combat experience or other traumatic events, Community VNA Hospice Care will find tools to help support those in unique circumstances.
“All hospices are serving Veterans but often aren’t aware of that person’s service in the armed forces,” said J. Donald Schumacher, NHPCO president and CEO. “Through We Honor Veterans we are taking a giant step forward in helping hospice and palliative care providers understand and serve Veterans at the end of life and work more effectively with VA medical facilities in their communities.”

“VA shares a common goal with our nation’s hospices, and that is to provide the best possible care specifically tailored for Veterans, meeting their goals of care in their preferred setting. As we focus on working together and unite our services and skills, We Honor Veterans will channel our combined strengths directly to Veterans - wherever they are receiving care.”

The resources of We Honor Veterans focus on respectful inquiry, compassionate listening, and grateful acknowledgment, coupled with Veteran-centric education of health care staff caring for Veterans. To learn more about We Honor Veterans or to support this important work via a secure, online donation, please visit www.wehonorveterans.org.

“America’s Veterans have done everything asked of them in their mission to serve our country and we believe it is never too late to give them a hero’s welcome home. Now it is time that we step up, acquire the necessary skills and fulfill our mission to serve these men and women with the dignity they deserve,” added Schumacher.

“We are honored to be recognized as a Partner in the We Honor Veterans Program and will continue to demonstrate our commitment to dignity, comfort and respect for Veterans and their loved ones at the end of life,” said Colleen Swihart, RN, Hospice Manager for Community VNA. “Delivering compassionate care and helping our nation’s Veterans and their families plan their journey with a focus on comfort and quality of life is an extremely important initiative at Community VNA Hospice Care,” added Swihart. “We are privileged to honor those who have served our country.”
About Community VNA
Community VNA has been dedicated to enhancing health, wellness and quality of life for more than 100 years, providing a range of services throughout the 13 cities and towns of the greater Attleboro region. Services include: Home Health Care, Hospice Care, Palliative Care, Private Care, Adult Day Health Care, Alzheimer’s Assistance Program, as well as Lifeline services and annual Elder Dental Clinics.

About Community VNA Hospice Care
Hospice is caring that focuses on comfort for patients with serious illnesses. This care is designed to provide all aspects of medical, emotional, spiritual care and support for patients and assistance for their loved ones. Community VNA's Hospice and Palliative Care nursing staff are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

For more information, contact Community VNA by calling 508.222.0118. Stay connected with us online at [www.communityvna.com](http://www.communityvna.com), or on Facebook by searching for Community VNA.

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