IOWA CITY HOSPICE
1526 Sycamore St
Iowa City, IA 52240

follow us on facebook!

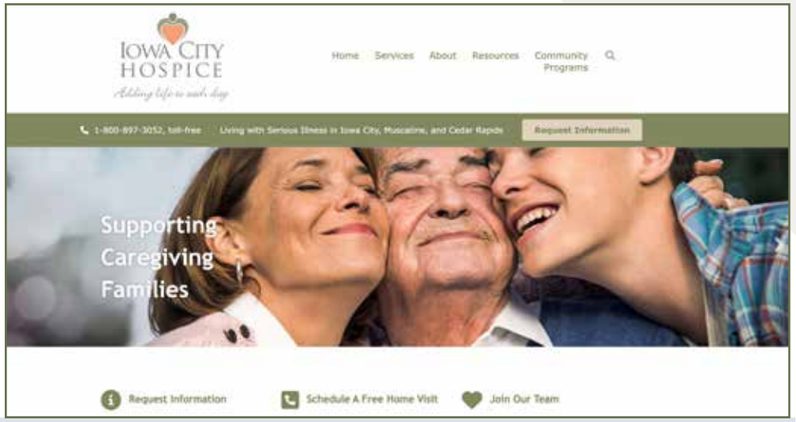
We share something almost every day! Sometimes it's useful tidbits like news you can use and caregiving tips. Sometimes it's fun stuff like shout-outs to our awesome employees, high fives for new achievements, and photos of office celebrations. Sometimes it's information about upcoming events and fundraisers (and shameless shilling for your support). Whatever it may be, it's always fresh and entertaining!

Facebook.com/IowaCityHospice

Facebook.com/vnaofjohnsoncounty

Free Caregiving Resources at your Fingertips, 24/7!

We are delighted to provide an outstanding free resource to our community: **seriousillness.org/iowacity**. This website is packed with information and advice about caring for people with serious illness. You'll find disease-specific topics, time-saving tips, safety-enhancing resources and updated links to much more. You can even sign up for a monthly e-newsletter. We hope you'll take a look!



Iowa Care Community
1522 Sycamore St • Iowa City, IA 52240
319.351.5665
iowacarecommunity.org

VNA of Johnson County
1524 Sycamore St • Iowa City, IA 52240
319-337-9686
vnaic.org

Iowa City Hospice
1526 Sycamore St • Iowa City, IA 52240
319.351.5665
iowacityhospice.org

A quarterly publication from
VNA Visiting Nurse Association
IOWA CITY HOSPICE
Issue 2 • May 2024

From our CEO:

Our Past Informs our Future

Welcome! This quarter's newsletter is also our annual report for 2023. It was a good year. We reached thousands of people and provided outstanding compassionate care. While we did a lot to be proud of, we had no chance to rest on our laurels: we heard challenging news from the State of Iowa and other funders that their priorities have changed and we will no longer receive their financial support.

We turned to our donors and you really came through! We surpassed our goal for our Annual Appeal, and received significant support to continue our VNA Homemaker Program. We are so grateful!

But since sustainability is essential to our mission, we also had to make difficult decisions. We took a hard look at all of our programs, where we make the most difference to our patients, and what we do best.

What we excel at, and the most vital services to our patients, are hospice and home health care. To sustain these priorities, we've put our community clinic programs, including flu vaccination clinics, on hold. We're consolidating, and living within our means.

VNA and Iowa City Hospice are coming home. And we're leaving the door open for the future.

Great Hospice Care Takes Teamwork

When your hospice care comes from Iowa City Hospice, an "interdisciplinary team" supports you. That means skilled health care professionals, each working at the top of their license, combine their expertise to plan, provide, and evaluate care and services.

All of our interdisciplinary teams include a physician, a registered nurse, a licensed social worker, and a spiritual counselor. We may also include the patient's attending physician, trained volunteers, certified hospice aides, bereavement counselors, music therapists, pharmacists, additional nurses, and other experienced therapists.

Every Iowa City Hospice interdisciplinary team works together to develop a written plan of care, and meets weekly to manage every plan of care for every patient. The primary nurse assigned as the patient's case manager coordinates the plan's care and services.

This team approach ensures that we can effectively address numerous issues from multiple perspectives and bring the best possible holistic and compassionate care to our patients and caregivers.

VNA NeuroRestorative Program Helps Regain Neurological Function

Traumatic brain injury, stroke, Parkinson's disease, and other neurological disorders can have devastating effects on patient function. It's stressful for both patients and caregivers as things that were once simple can seem impossible.

VNA's new NeuroRestorative Program focuses on the positive, bringing skilled therapists together to use their specific expertise to improve function and help patients live life to its fullest where it matters most – in their homes.

Patients and caregivers gain skill and confidence as occupational, physical, and speech therapy join to address issues like making toileting and bathing easier, compensating for cognitive changes, improving communication, and promoting steadier standing, walking, and movement.

Best of all, the care comes to the patient, which eases the strain of leaving home. For more information, visit vnaic.org, or call our office at 319-337-9686.

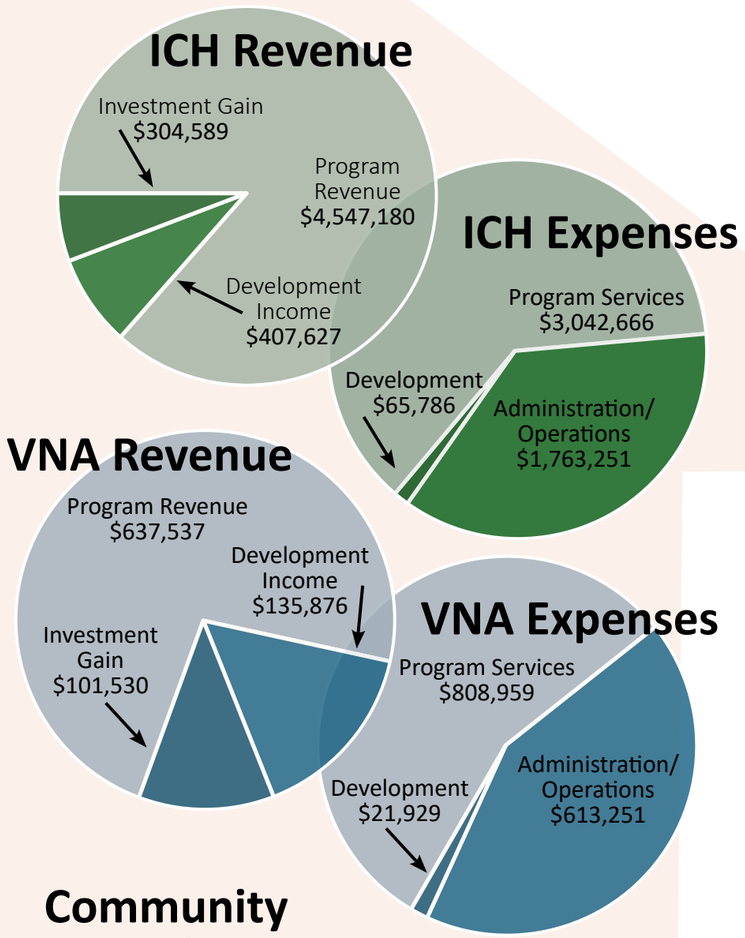
VNA NeuroRestorative Program Team:

Corrigan Goldsmith, OTR/L
VNA Occupational Therapist
Certified Brain Injury Specialist

David Harper, DPT
VNA Physical Therapist

Laura Farley, MS CCC-SLP
VNA Speech Therapist

2023 By The Numbers

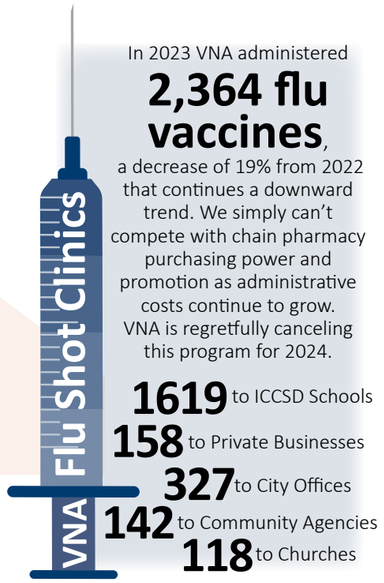


Community Service

VNA	$97,878
ICH	$163,680

We frequently accept patients with no insurance, or coverage that falls short of expenses. VNA and ICH support as many of these patients as we possibly can while remaining fiscally responsible and sustainable. We also provide popular services like homemaking and music therapy that are rarely reimbursed at all.

Total: $261,558



In 2023 VNA administered

2,364 flu vaccines,

a decrease of 19% from 2022 that continues a downward trend. We simply can't compete with chain pharmacy purchasing power and promotion as administrative costs continue to grow. VNA is regretfully canceling this program for 2024.

1619 to ICCSD Schools
158 to Private Businesses
327 to City Offices
142 to Community Agencies
118 to Churches

Who Are Our Patients?

In 2023, ICH and VNA together admitted

531 new patients

to home health and/or hospice care

269 identified as **female**

262 identified as **male**

These patients ranged from

7 to 106 years old

They came from every corner of our seven-county service area:

• Amana • Cedar Rapids • Columbus Junction • Conesville • Coralville • Durant • Ely • Fairfax • Hills • Homestead • Iowa City • Kalona • Lisbon • Lone Tree • Mechanicsville • Mt. Vernon • Muscatine • North English • North Liberty • Oxford • Riverside • Robins • Solon • Springville • Swisher • Tiffin • Tipton • Walford • Wellman • West Branch • West Liberty • Williamsburg • Wilton

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$10,000 and Above

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$5,000 to $9,999

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Coldren Fund for the Elderly
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$1,000 to $2,499

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Shuttleworth & Ingersoll
Charmaine Svoboda
Swisher Men's Club, Inc
Town Square Family Foot Care
Janet K. Williams

$500 to $999

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David Calvert
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Velvet Coat
Traci & Jason Wagner
Marlene Waldis
Peter & Kathryn Wallace
Tom Zapf

View our Complete 2023 Donor List Online:

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Leash on Life
Lensing Funeral & Cremation Service
Mary & Jim Pratt
McComas-Lacina Construction, LC
Relion Insurance Solutions
River Products Company, Inc.
Riverside Casino & Golf Resort
SCHEELS All Sports
Ted & Deb Pacha
Town Square Family Foot Care
Towncrest Pharmacy-Iowa City & Solon
Two Rivers Bank & Trust
University of Iowa Health Care