

## HAL CONKLIN Coming Full Circle

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Published by VNA Health Foundation 509 East Montecito Street, Suite 200 Santa Barbara, CA 93103



VNA HEALTH, FORMERLY KNOWN AS VISITING NURSE & HOSPICE CARE, HAS EARNED THE JOINT COMMISSION'S GOLD SEAL OF APPROVAL® FOR HOME HEALTH CARE, PAIL LATIVE CARE, AND HOSPICE CARE

# LVNAHealth



Dear VNA Health Family and Friends,

A circle has neither a beginning nor an end, and whether small or large, a circle conveys the spirit of continuity. At VNA Health, a circle symbolizes our Circle of Care, which focuses on our patients and their families, and our goal to connect them to the best team of clinicians and caregivers so we can help them live with health and dignity. Unlike any other

home healthcare provider in Santa Barbara County, we are committed to a charitable mission to ensure that the people of our communities have access to quality medical and therapeutic care at home.

Our ability to provide this care for more than a century is directly due to the people in our community circles. In this issue of our *LIVE WELL* magazine, we share a few stories about our circles of care and connections. Also in this issue is our 2021 Annual Impact Report. While an annual report is a list of names, donors, and volunteers ... we see something more ... the power of people reinforcing the circles of care for their communities.

VNA Health provides more than \$2.7 million dollars a year in community, unreimbursed, and under-reimbursed care for Santa Barbara County. Thanks to your ongoing philanthropic support, we can ensure:

- + Serenity House continues to provide comfort to patients facing end of life, and a peaceful space for their families.
- + Community Care programs such as Bereavement Care, We Honor Veterans, and PHorum: Perspectives in Healthcare continue to educate and support those in need.
- + The Loan Closet continues to provide basic medical equipment to more than 2,600 people, helping them live safely with greater independence.
- Access to trusted and compassionate care to more than 8,200 families, helping them live well at home.

One of my favorite quotes is by Ram Dass: "We're all just walking each other home." It reminds me that caring for our home is about caring for each other and passing that gift of care forward. As the new President & CEO of this amazing organization, I am humbled by our circle of passionate leaders who care so deeply for VNA Health and our communities. I am grateful to our Board of Directors and retiring President & CEO Lynda Tanner for their service and leadership. It is an honor to join the VNA Health team, and I am committed to continuing our legacy of compassionate and trusted care, and ensuring that "You'll Never Walk Alone."

Thank you for your support and care,

aran

Kieran Shah, CHPCA PRESIDENT & CEO



Hal Conklin at Stearns Wharf (circa 1980s) as he championed funding for the wharf's restoration after the devastating fire in 1973; it re-opened on October 14, 1981.



04 Coming Full Circle Former Mayor Hal Conklin comes home to Serenity House

 $\mbox{COVER}\,$  Hal Conklin in a Santa Barbara  $4^{\mbox{th}}$  of July parade



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Hal Conklin tending the garden at the former site of the Community Environmental Council where Serenity House and its gardens are today (circa mid 1980s).

## **Coming Full Circle**

## "Guess where I am?" Hal said, with that familiar endearing chuckle of his. "I'm at the Serenity House. I've come full circle."

HAL CONKLIN — former Santa Barbara mayor, councilmember, environmental pioneer, arts advocate, and civic visionary — died from brain cancer complications in May 2021 at VNA Health's Serenity House. Hal came full circle to Serenity House which is built on the former site of the Community Environmental Council's (CEC) headquarters where he had served as co-director.

Hal was a man on a mission, a true community hero for over 50 years. While he was a leading advocate for environmental protection, Hal was also passionate about the arts, historic preservation, community planning and development, and city governance. Some of his noteworthy accomplishments include: launching California's first recycling program (originally at the corner of Garden and Ortega); leading the charge to save Stearns Wharf after it was demolished in a fire; leading the upgrade of Santa Barbara's train station; advocating for commercial development restrictions to protect housing supply; backing needed upgrades to the Lobero and Granada theatres; protecting the Santa Barbara waterfront from massive development resulting in the expansion of Chase Palm Park; championing downtown revitalization efforts giving rise to Paseo Nuevo and new parking lots that have served the area for the past 30 years; dedicating 17 years to civil service as city councilmember and later esteemed mayor; and founding Common Table Foundation to unite the entire community through shared events after the Thomas Fire and debris flow.

"Infused with a mix of old-school spirituality, political ambition, and seriously ingenious practicality. He got things done." – NICK WELSH, SANTA BARBARA INDEPENDENT 5/21/21

VNA Health is honored to have graced the final path of one of Santa Barbara's great civic leaders.



FRONT Former CEC headquarters (circa mid 1980s) | BEHIND Serenity House (present day)

In September 2020, Hal underwent emergency brain surgery after suddenly collapsing — and he did not wake from the ordeal for three weeks. He received excellent care at Cottage Hospital and Cottage Rehabilitation Hospital.

Hal lived five months longer than what the doctors believed, according to Hal's wife, Haley McGuire Conklin. "I said to Dr. [Frederic] Kass, 'Thank you so much for giving us this time with him.' "And he said, 'It wasn't me. It was Hal's faith and belief."

In May 2021, Haley said to Hal, "You know, Dr. Kass feels it's time for you to be at Serenity House where they can monitor you and give you whatever you need." And Hal said, 'You know, honey, the last few days I've been feeling a shift. Yes, it's time.' Before we left the house, Hal just stood there, taking one more look around the house before he left. That was really tough."

Hal was at Serenity House on the night of the Loma fire, which threatened the entire Mesa. Within hours of receiving the mandatory evacuation orders, all Serenity House patients had been safely moved to other trusted care facilities in the community. But Hal was the last one to go, as he was transitioning (a term signaling that death is imminent).

"We're all standing around Hal, praying and listening to his gospel music and I'm thinking, 'He's going to leave us any minute," shared Haley. "All of a sudden the doors to his suite open up and the staff say, 'We've got to go now. Everybody has left Serenity House. We've got to get you out.' We all rushed down to the parking lot and we were waiting near the ambulance where they loaded Hal. Two of his sons rode in the ambulance with him and they took us to the Samarkand facility. The nurses that came with us from Serenity House were amazing and took really good care of him."

Late the next morning, Hal was moved back to Serenity House. "The wonderful staff at Serenity House told his sons, 'Tell us some stories about your childhood,'" shared Haley. "Well, there was always humor in the Conklin household. So they started to tell the stories and we were all laughing. Within an hour of being back at Serenity House, the nurse said, 'It's happening'...and we saw him just leave."

Haley said, "He transitioned in Hal Conklin time, because he never did anything a moment before he was ready. I always used to say that about him. If he wanted to go from Serenity House, then he wasn't leaving from any other place. It was only fitting that he would leave from Serenity House. I mean, there wasn't a part of this town that Hal, hadn't touched. That's the only way I could describe it."

Reminiscing, Haley shared, "I haven't been back there to Serenity House, but when I drive the freeway every day I look up and I say a little prayer of gratitude for that place and it makes me smile as I think, 'Well, you chose the perfect place to leave from.'"

Hal Conklin died at Serenity House on Friday, May 21, 2021, at the age of 75.

## **REFLECTIONS FROM HAL CONKLIN'S FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

"You would think we'd known each other forever, within an hour or so of meeting each other. He was just the easiest human being to connect with on any level. He lit up a room and he knew everybody and cared about everybody. What I learned very quickly was, don't send him to the supermarket to pick up a few things because he could be gone for hours! I would say he had the biggest heart of anyone I've ever known. Just an incredible, wonderful man. "



The night Haley and Hal first met in 1994.

HALEY MCGUIRE CONKLIN HAL'S WIFE



"It was just five days before Hal died. He called me. 'Guess where I am?' he said, with that familiar endearing chuckle of his. 'I'm at the Serenity House. I've come full circle.' The significance of Hal being at Serenity House, the beautiful hospice facility on the Mesa overlooking Santa Barbara, can't be overstated. Serenity House was built at the site of the Community Environmental Council's (CEC) headquarters, and a portion of that original CEC building is incorporated into the Serenity House complex as it stands today. Hal and I were CEC's co-directors back in 1970, the year CEC was founded by a community galvanized by Santa Barbara's momentous 1969 oil spill. Hal told me that he was about to exit this life from a place and an organization that was, in many respects, his birthplace in Santa Barbara. His call was a poignant one. I sensed it could be our last conversation. Sadly, it was."

#### PAUL RELIS

AUTHOR, ENVIRONMENTALIST, BUSINESS EXECUTIVE EXCERPT FROM AN OBITUARY PUBLISHED IN THE SANTA BARBARA INDEPENDENT



"The Capps family has the collective good fortune of calling Hal one of our closest and most cherished friends. He was a seeker — he was clearly on a lifelong mission. This home that we all share couldn't have been more central to who he was. He shaped it in countless ways — he protected it for future generations. He found that magic balance of already possessing so many of life's answers while still being curious and asking the right questions. Hal is synonymous with the spirit of Santa Barbara. His spirit is grounded here, in this place, in the wonderful community of Santa Barbara that we are all blessed — thanks to Hal Conklin — to call our home."

#### LAURA CAPPS

SANTA BARBARA SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER EXCERPT FROM A EULOGY







## ABOUT SERENITY HOUSE

Serenity House is Santa Barbara's treasured hospice home. Owned and operated by VNA Health, it provides a unique care option for hospice patients whose needs cannot be managed successfully at home. Located on the Mesa overlooking beautiful Santa Barbara, it has 18 private rooms to provide families and friends the opportunity to spend time with their loved ones in a tranquil setting away from the demands of home. Guests can gather in the family room, take walks on the scenic paths, and be with their loved one even overnight. It is the only facility of its kind within 150 miles (and one of 14 licensed in California).

The Serenity House staff focus on quality of life for patients and their families through medical, emotional, and spiritual support. The hospice team includes physicians, registered and licensed vocational nurses, certified aides, medical social workers, spiritual and bereavement counselors, chaplains, certified music therapists, pet therapists, integrative therapy aides, a registered dietician, a chef, and hospice-trained volunteers. Staff and volunteers are at the heart of Serenity House – what they do goes far beyond their professional skills and licenses — it is a sacred calling.

Everyone, including those without adequate financial resources or insurance, has access to a peaceful and dignified passing at Serenity House. VNA Health is the only home healthcare provider committed to Santa Barbara families through a charitable mission. This mission ensures that no one is turned away due to financial hardship (nearly 30% of all Serenity House patients receive financial assistance). Without Serenity House, many families would have few, if any, options for quality and compassionate end-of-life care for their loved ones. VNA Health is grateful to maintain this vital resource through the generosity of the Santa Barbara community.

#### vna.health/serenityhouse



## **Finding Your Way**

#### SUSANNA AND TONY'S STORY

Tony and Susanna each lost their beloved spouses after long and fruitful marriages. At different times, they each sought support from Bereavement Care. After meeting Susanna, Bereavement Counselor Dairine Pearson suggested she might benefit from the Writing to Heal group. Dairine had an intuition it would suit Susanna's desire to explore her experience in a creative manner. In this group, Tony and Susanna met. Slowly, their friendship deepened into love. After two years of working through love and grief, they joyfully married on Valentine's Day. Tony later experienced a resurgence of cancer that had long been in remission. His condition was treated, but he eventually required hospice care. Susanna lovingly cared for Tony at home and then later at Serenity House, where he died with grace and peace. Susanna is a beautiful example of resilience in grief.

"I remember walking into the Writing to Heal class and thinking, "I don't sleep, I don't eat, I don't think I have the energy to do this." But Dairine, in her magical way, slowly brought the color of life back to our ashen cheeks. Tony and I were each grappling with the loss of our amazing spouses, two giant hearts of compassion. I will be eternally grateful for the healing we each experienced, the connection with writing that brought us back to our whole selves, and for the time we had together — too brief and yet deep beyond measure." –  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{SUSANNA}}$ 

#### TERESA'S STORY

Teresa cared for her father before he died on hospice care at VNA Health's Serenity House. In this same season, she also lost two brothers: Mark died quickly from illness soon before her father's passing, and Jerry died unexpectedly six months after her father. These multiple losses were a tremendous strain - physically, emotionally, and mentally. Added to it all, her dog Kiley was diagnosed with a terminal illness. Over time, Teresa began to heal from her loss by working with her Bereavement Counselor Mara Petrick; attending Mindfulness in Grief and Healing through Collage groups; and doing relaxing activities such as gentle exercise, journaling, and other creative outlets.

"I will always remember my earth angel Mara who helped me during my darkest days. I feel like you helped me when I most needed to be lifted, held, and heard. Your gentle, loving, mindful presence held me together during those beginning weeks/months. I am so grateful to have had this time, not rushed, to help me process this strenuous journey of grief and stress. Having a safe place to come together and talk as much as I wanted or needed about my grief and



Teresa and her dog Kiley

loved ones. Thank you for your compassionate heart, Mara. I am forever grateful!"  $-\,{\tt TERESA}$ 

#### WHAT IS GRIEF?

Perhaps grief is very familiar to you, an echo of all the losses you've encountered in life. Perhaps grief is new and shocking, hitting way harder than you expected. There are many stories of grief.

+ You've lost the love of your life, your rock, your anchor, and you've never lived alone before

- + You've lost someone with whom you had a difficult relationship, and now don't know what to feel
- + You've lost someone slowly, over years of illness
- + You lost someone suddenly and without warning
- + You've lost who you are; you feel alone and shut out from others
- + You never knew grief would feel like this
- + You wonder if meeting others going through grief would help, or not

We understand. We get it. VNA Health's Bereavement Care trained counselors offer individual, couples, family, and group counseling to help you through the grief process. Our care is available to anyone in Santa Barbara County and is free of charge. It is offered in both English and Spanish. A counselor can meet with you to determine what kind of support best suits you, and help you find your way at a difficult time.

#### VNA HEALTH BEREAVEMVENT CARE

VNA Health currently offers individual and group grief counseling in person and via telehealth. Services are offered in full compliance with COVID-19 safety precautions. Our top priority remains the health, safety, and wellbeing of our community. Please email us at bereavement@vna.health, or leave a confidential message at (805) 308-9602, and one of our Bereavement Care team members will respond.



VNA Health Bereavement Counselors (L-R): Mara Petrick, Marsha Goldman, Mark McGann, Elizabeth Pulliam, and Dairine Pearson (Department Coordinator)

VNA Health Bereavement Care is a respected and established program that has helped tens of thousands of Santa Barbara County residents. (805) 308-9602 | bereavement@vna.health



2022 PHORUM (L-R): VNA Health President & CEO Kieran Shah, CHPCA; Janet Hranicky, MD, PhD; Michelle Neff Hernandez; Mariella Marin, MA, MFT; William Peters, MEd, MFT; and Moderator Jerry Roberts

## Understanding the Wisdom of Grief

Globally, our human family has lost of more than one million people to the COVID-19 pandemic. Beyond the virus, research has shown that for every COVID-19 death, there are nine bereaved people grieving the loss of their loved one. To help our communities face the impact of this "grief pandemic," the annual VNA Health PHorum: Perspectives in Healthcare featured the Wisdom of Grief.

Presented by the Hutton Parker Foundation, the 2022 PHorum explored grief from a cultural, spiritual, mental, physical, and emotional perspective. In a panel moderated by Jerry Roberts, four notable speakers discussed the range of grief and its impact on our wellbeing, ways to promote health through the grief journey, and tools to support grieving individuals.

Thanks to the support of our sponsors, a video recording of our 2022 PHorum, the speakers' presentations, and a Mental Wellness Community Resource Guide are available online at **vna.health/phorum**.

Please visit and share with family and friends so that together we can discover the *Wisdom of Grief*. "The PHorum, *Wisdom of Grief*, was another outstanding PHorum success. It's a tough sensitive topic, and you brought some top notch passionate speakers in to connect." – ANTOINETTE

"Thanks for organizing the PHorum at the Lobero. The VIP reception and presentations were great. I particularly liked hearing about the subject of grief from the different perspectives of each of the panelists. I am so glad I was able to attend." – ALEXANDER

"I loved the diversity of speakers with unique perspectives, all coming from love. It was a thoughtful and passionate affair! It's my hope that I can share it with others, some who can utilize the gift of understanding right now." – ADRIANNE

"We watched PHorum from the comfort of home and we were so impressed with all of the speakers! It was an excellent line-up. Anyone who has lost a loved one should watch this." – KERIN

## THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 PHORUM SPONSORS



Kieran Shah, VNA Health President & CEO; Michelle Martinich, American Riviera Bank Executive VP & CFO and VNA Health Board Emeritus; and Jeff Devine American Riviera Bank CEO



Kieran Shah; Kenneth Falstrom; Geoff Green; SBCC Foundation CEO; Mark Mattingly, VNA Health Board Chair; and David Selberg, Hospice of Santa Barbara CEO



Haunna Tomas and Debbie Denault, American Riviera Bank Community & Board Relations Officer



Adrianne Davis; Charlene Pitcher Huston; Lailan McGrath, VNA Health Major Gifts Officer; and Andy Davis

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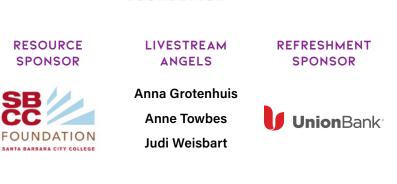
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# DS BY BARON SPAFFORD





In the spirit of caring and celebrating mothers, we invite you to honor the special women and caregivers in our lives!

With a gift of any amount, we will place the name of your loved one (along with your name) in our online Appreciation Garden located at: **vna.health/garden** 

Your gift of honor makes a difference, thank you. To make your tribute, you may use the enclosed reply envelope or go online to: **vna.health/celebratingmothers** 

Also, please enjoy the complimentary postcards in the centerfold to send a care message to your special loved one(s).

## 2022 UPCOMING EVENTS





SERENITY HOUSE ANNIVERSARY AUGUST 19, 2022 vna.health/serenityhouseanniversary



SAVE THE DATE SEPTEMBER 10, 2022 vna.health/charityregatta



COMING IN EARLY DECEMBER 2022 vna.health/angels President & CEO Lynda Tanner Retires after 14 Years on Valentine's Day



#### AFTER 14 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

Lynda Tanner, RN, MSN retired from VNA Health as President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on Valentine's Day 2022. Lynda started in 2008 as Chief Operations Officer (COO) when VNA Health was known as Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care. In 2010, Lynda became the agency's President & CEO, serving for the next 12 years. Under Lynda's leadership, VNA Health grew from a small community home care agency into an award-winning, nationally recognized, regional healthcare leader providing comprehensive in-home healthcare, including home health, palliative, hospice, and bereavement care.

As CEO, Lynda immediately oversaw one of the organization's most significant projects — the construction and opening of the 18-bed Serenity House — the only Medicare licensed in-patient hospice facility in Santa Barbara County. In 2011, Serenity House opened on the Mesa. At the time, however, legislative restrictions meant only 12 of the 18 beds could be used; so Lynda pressed for legislative change, ultimately resulting in the passage of SB 177.

Sponsored by former State Senator Tony Strickland and former Assemblyman Das Williams, SB 177 was a special statute for Santa Barbara County, extending the number of patient beds in "congregate living health facilities" to a maximum of 25 beds for serving people who are terminally ill. Signed into law in 2012 by Governor Brown, SB 177 gave Serenity House the ability to utilize all 18 beds and meet the needs of our community. More than a decade later, Serenity House continues to provide a home away from home for patients facing end of life, and in support of their loved ones.

Also in 2011, Lynda directed the acquisition of Community Home Health, increasing VNA Health's delivery of home health services by 35%. To further serve the communities of the Lompoc, Santa Ynez, and Santa Maria Valleys, Lynda successfully obtained branch status for a satellite location in Solvang in 2012. Later that year, Lynda oversaw the move of the organization's corporate office to its current location in downtown Santa Barbara.

With the evolving dynamics of healthcare, VNA Health recognized the vital role that community education plays in achieving and maintaining health. In 2014, Lynda led the development of VNA Health's PHorum: Perspectives in Healthcare, which has become Santa Barbara's premier annual healthcare symposium for national, regional, and local healthcare leaders to share and discuss relevant issues impacting our community. Through the years, PHorum speakers have discussed the Affordable Care Act, the collaboration of nonprofits to provide greater access to affordable healthcare, the power of choosing what's most important when facing end of life, and the healing and empowering nature of music for both patients and families living with loss or caring for a loved one with Alzheimer's. In 2018, Lynda accepted the prestigious national award for PHorum, as the ElevatingHOME Program of the Year from the national organization Visiting Nurses Associations of America.



PHORUM 2014 (L-R): Fred Kass, MD, Medical Director, Cancer Center of Santa Barbara with Sansum Clinic; Bob Freeman, President & CEO, CenCal Health; Michael Bordofsky, MD, Hospice Medical Director, VNA Health (formerly known as Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care); Lynda Tanner, RN, MSN, President & CEO, VNA Health; Edward Bentley, MD, Santa Barbara Gastroenterology Medical Group; Kurt Ransohoff, MD, President, CEO & CMO, Sansum Clinic; and Ron Werft, President & CEO, Cottage Health

The 2022 PHorum was Lynda's ninth, and in honor of her leadership and service, VNA Health established the Lynda Tanner Tribute where all funds donated support VNA Health's ongoing community education programs, such as the annual PHorum.

#### vna.health/lyndatannertribute

Another important and vital community care program is We Honor Veterans, a program of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization in collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs. In November 2017, after five years of diligent work, Lynda announced that VNA Health achieved Level 4 of the We Honor Veterans program. To this day, VNA Health is the only nonprofit hospice organization in the Tri-County area (Santa Barbara, Ventura, and San Luis Obispo) to have achieved this level.

One month later, Lynda lead the agency to earn The Joint Commission's Gold Seal of Approval® for Home Care Accreditation for home health and hospice care by demonstrating continuous compliance with its performance standards. The Joint Commission is an independent, not-for-profit organization that accredits U.S. healthcare organizations. The Gold Seal of Approval® is a symbol of quality that reflects an organization's commitment to providing safe and effective care.

Again in 2020, Lynda led VNA Health to receive reaccreditation for home health care and hospice care, and accreditation for palliative care. As healthcare in the home becomes the preferred choice, it is important that home care providers are able to demonstrate that they are capable of providing safe, high quality care. An important milestone in Lynda's career was rebranding the organization. VNA Health was founded in 1908 as the Visiting Nurse Association of Santa Barbara, the third oldest VNA in California. In 2001, the organization changed its name to Visiting Nurse & Hospice Care to reflect the addition of its Medicare-certified medical hospice program. In 2016, Lynda and the Board of Directors initiated a strategic phased rebranding plan. After extensive quantitative and qualitative market research, and unanimous support from the Board, Lynda announced the organization's new brand on September 19, 2019.

Changing the organization's name to VNA Health and its tagline to "Live Well" reflects the organization's ongoing commitment to providing quality health care and its promise to help the communities it serves to live well. Just prior to the launch of the new brand, Lynda was asked in an interview: "What does it mean to live well?" Lynda softly smiled and replied:

LIVE WELL MEANS MANY THINGS. LIVE WELL MEANS GETTING TO STAY AT HOME. LIVE WELL MEANS BEING INDEPENDENT, BEING EDUCATED ABOUT YOUR DISEASE, AND YOUR MEDICATIONS, AND BEING THE CEO OF YOUR HEALTH. LIVE WELL MEANS THAT AT END OF LIFE, IT'S ABOUT QUALITY AND NOT QUANTITY IT'S ABOUT LEAVING YOUR FAMILY MEMBERS STRONG AND CARED FOR, SO THAT THEY ARE ABLE TO MOVE ON AND LIVE A FULL LIFE. ALL OF THOSE THINGS ARE LIVE WELL.



BRANDING 2019: Lynda Tanner, President & CEO; Karen Wallace, CFO; Andrea Garzon, CHRO; and Rick Keith, Foundation Executive Director

The past few years have been challenging in Santa Barbara County. Several crises have impacted healthcare organizations and the residents of our communities, including the 2018 Thomas Fire, 2019 Debris Flow, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Lynda's leadership of the organization has been essential as she worked diligently with the leadership team, nurses, caregivers, support team members, and physicians to keep our communities and patients safe, sustaining the continuity of care.



During Lynda's 14-year tenure, she diligently served VNA Health as an innovative disruptor, challenging her team to excellence and supporting them with compassion. Lynda's legacy is the transformation of VNA Health and positioning it to continue thriving. The words of renowned poet Maya Angelou capture Lynda's philosophy: "My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style."

Thank you Lynda Tanner for your passion, compassion, humor, and style. Thank you for your leadership and service to our organization. Thank you for ensuring VNA Health thrives, so that we may continue caring for our communities, and so that every person lives with health and dignity.

## 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS CELEBRATION OF LYNDA TANNER



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STEVE & LYNDA TANNER



Rona Barrett, Founder and President of the Rona Barrett Foundation, engages the senior residents of the Golden Inn & Village in Santa Ynez in a lively sing-a-long activity.

## **Celebrating Community Synergy**

#### Working together to create something greater than we could do alone.

#### **CARING FOR SENIORS**

VNA Health is proud to continue its partnership with the Rona Barrett Foundation to sustain the continuum of care for seniors. The reality is that the United States population is aging. There are more than 46 million older adults who are 65 years or older living in the U.S.; and by 2050, that number is expected to grow to almost 90 million. Both VNA Health and the Rona Barrett Foundation share a common goal — to help seniors safely age at home — which means ensuring affordable housing and access to the healthcare they need to stay safe and well.



#### HONORING OUR VETERANS

To better serve and care for our Veterans, VNA Health is proud to be a We Honor Veterans 4-Star Level Member to address the growing need for Veteran-centered care, especially as the need for hospice and palliative care by the aging Veteran population increases. In addition to providing medical care, VNA Health honors Veterans through Veteran Pinning Ceremonies.

A Veteran Pinning Ceremony is an optional benefit for Veteran patients on VNA Health hospice care. It provides an opportunity to publicly acknowledge the military service and sacrifices made by the Veteran and their family. During the ceremony, a personalized certificate and American flag service pin are presented by one of our Vet-to-Vet Volunteers. The ceremony gives the Veteran a chance to share part of their story.

On March 29, in recognition of National Vietnam War Veterans Day, VNA Health partnered with Pam Gnekow and SYV Community Outreach to recognize and thank 22 Vietnam War Veterans for their service with a BBQ luncheon and a Pinning Ceremony. The pins were presented by David Moorman, VNA Health Loan Closet Staff and U.S. Navy Veteran; and Al Sage, U.S. Air Force and Vietnam War Veteran, who served as Emcee.



VNA Health Pinning Ceremony of 22 Vietnam War Veterans.



U.S. Marine Veteran Marie Mackey with Kieran Shah.



U.S. Army Veteran Peter Delevett and his wife Molly with Kieran Shah.

On April 7, The Friendship Center in Montecito and VNA Health honored 14 veterans for their service with a luncheon and Pinning Ceremony. Pins were presented by VNA Health Vet-to-Vet volunteers Scott Eschbach (U.S. Army) and Roger Deck (U.S. Navy); and VNA Health President & CEO Kieran Shah presented patriotic-themed, handmade quilts made by the Coastal Quilters Guild of Santa Barbara & Goleta. In the spirit of community synergy, Tom Parker served as Emcee, Associate Rector Victoria Kirk Mouradian from All Saints by the Sea Episcopal Church gave the invocation, and Deborah Bertling sang the national anthem. Additional sponsors included 1Heart Caregiver Services, Santa Barbara Living Consultants, Goleta Noontime Rotary Club, Gulley & Larsen Insurance Services, Amy Rosas Cupcakes, and Rosewood Miramar Beach.

The VNA Health Veteran programs are 100% supported through donations and volunteers. Learn more about our Veteran programs and Vet-to-Vet volunteer opportunities. (805) 690-6274 edith.gonzalez@vna.health





#### 2,600+ People received free medical equipment from Loan Closet

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## 37,654

Nursing visits helped Home Health and Hospice patients in need

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## 22,062

Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapy visits improved patients' functioning

## 200+

Terminally-ill patients were assisted by our Palliative Care team

16,443 Home Health Aide visits brought personal care and comfort

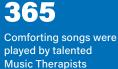
## 5,439

Medical Social Worker visits provided needed resources and support

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## **2021 Annual Impact Report**

## \$34,989,579

## \$34,113,064

**Combined Agency Expenses** 

Combined Agency Revenue

## \$2,700,000

Charitable Community Care Benefit

## COMMUNITY CARE PROGRAMS & SERVICES SUPPORTED BY VNA HEALTH FOUNDATION

- + Serenity House Charity Care
- + Subsidized Care for Underinsured or Noninsured Patients
- + Subsidized Care Under-reimbursed MediCal Patients
- + Community Palliative Care
- + Community Bereavement Care

- + Telehealth Care
- + We Honor Veterans
- + Music Therapy
- + Pet Therapy
- + Integrative Therapies
- + Community Education
- + Loan Closet

Dear VNA Health Family and Friends,

More than 114 years ago, VNA Health was founded "for the good of the community and out of compassion for the less fortunate," which was deemed to be a "value to the health of the whole community."\*

Through your contributions, it is clear that the inspiration and passion of our founders have been shared from generation to generation. Every gift makes a difference, and directly supports VNA Health clinicians and caregivers in their work to care for our patients and their families when they need us most.

On behalf of the VNA Health Board of Directors, THANK YOU for supporting our mission to care for our communities with compassion and integrity, and helping people to live with health and dignity.

With our gratitude,

Mark Mattingly BOARD CHAIR

Paula Dillura Haskall

Pamela Dillman Haskell DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR

## You keep our mission alive...thank you!

A NOTE TO OUR SUPPORTERS We appreciate your generous donations to the VNA Health Foundation and we want to recognize everyone accordingly with 100% accuracy. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of our donor information. If we have inadvertently made an error, please contact VNA Health Foundation at (805) 690-6290 or foundation@vna.health so we can respond to any concerns or corrections.

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#### \$25,000-\$50,000

Anonymous Peter Douglas Christine & Reece Duca

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VOLUNTEER

I volunteer for VNA because of their commitment to people to die with dignity and grace. I also appreciate they care for people at home who have health challenges, including providing walkers, crutches, wheel chairs, etc. I enjoy the staff members and have had many uplifting experiences in different departments over the years.

107 VOLUNTEERS provided 2,400+ hours of support

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#### WHY I GIVE

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VNA HEALTH PATIENT ACCOUNT & MEDICAL RECORDS MANAGER

I volunteer for VNA because of its commitment to people to die with dignity and grace. I am a One Heart Employee-Giving Club member because of the great work the employees do for patients and families who need care during the most difficult times in their lives. I deeply believe in the mission of this organization, and I know that what I donate will really touch lives in our community.

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#### WHY I GIVE

## Lou Dartanner

My mother was hospitalized twice in a short time for heart failure. I felt overwhelmed when she was coming home on hospice, but VNA was at the door delivering everything needed to care for her. She was safe and comfortable, allowing us to be without worry those last few days. I give to VNA health to support their many services, compassionate care, and assistance to families.

**1700+ DONORS** supporting compassionate and trusted care

## Individual In-Kind Gifts

**Ronald Abeles** Caren Adelman Ronald Adler Nancy Alexander Jennifer Alldredge Lawrence Altshuler Sondra Andrade Wendy & Harry Atterbury Joseph Bailey Frederick Baker Katherine Baker Mrs. Mike Baker Jana Balonick Laura Barnes Gail Barroca Margaret & Arthur Barron Joy Bat Marta Becker Rocky Bellman Caron & John Berryhill Anthony Biedul Paula Josefa Blackwell Karen Blumehshzne Stephen Boddy Cynthia Boller Mrs. Lynne Borderre Lori Brakka Erica Branuelas Jeff Bretz Susan & Jeff Bridges **Rocio Briggs Richard Browman** Keric Brown M Therese Brown Crate **Rosemary Helen Burgess** Ronald Busch Susan Byers Joan & Dominic Camardella Rogelia Cano Beth Cappon Cynthia Castaneda Anne Castleberg Clara Castrejon Patricia Charest Lee Chase Claudia Chatzen Shari Childs Tyrena Chin



#### WHY I GIVE

Jim Cook SAMARITAN SOCIETY MEMBER

I realized what an impact VNA Health has made in our community through my volunteer efforts, and I decided to make a legacy gift so that all of the amazing programs and services will continue.

## **50+ SAMARITAN SOCIETY MEMBERS** who have left a provision for VNA Health in their will or trust

Greg Christman Allyson Claire Cat Cohen Haley Conklin Laura Cook Janet Cornish Leslie Cornyn Lane Coursen Lisa Cousins Dale Creek Gail Crivello Cristine Crooks Amy Dalforno **Beverly Daniels** Carolina de Wette Michael Decaris Mario Del Chiaro Javier Deloera Maureen Derchak Diana Diaz Bonnie Dickinson Theresa Dietz Lynn Donovan Cheryl Dunlap Michael Dunn Jammy Earnest Howard Eaton Kathy Edwards Jasper Eiler Mark Epley Myrna Epstein Patty & David Fainer Ernest J. Fanucchi Monica & David Fishman **Cindy Flowers** Tom Fox Jeff Frank Linda French **Yvonne Freund** Joyce A. Fryer Mr. Harold Fue Michelle Gaitan Jane Galmat Joan Galvan Robin Gelb Paul Gertler Yolanda Gijon Mel Gilmour David Gonzales Scott Gordon Bobbe Grace Pamela & Lorena Gunther Lois Gunter Vicki Halpern Valerie Halverson Paula Hamek Lee Hannah Eric Hansen Patricia V. Haro Gary Harris leff Harris Debbie & Steven Hartzman, MD **Charles Hewitt** Julieane Heyman Scott Hickman John Hillis Julie Hinkle Stewart Holden

Mark Holguin Jennifer Holland Catherine Holton Karen Homan Lynda Horsley **Diane Howard** Gary Howard Cindy Ingham Juan Izquierdo **Rick Jackson Elaine Jacobs** David James Jennifer & Chris Janci Dow Jarvis **Betsy Jenkins** Rebecca & Jim Johnson Debbie Johnston Marcey Jones Netta Jones Sarah & Fred Kass Michael Katz Debbie & Frank Kendrick Ellen Kenoss Mayank Khare Kenneth Kirkpatrick Paula Kislak James Koch Carol Kolunick Teresa & John Koontz Kenneth Kraus & Perry Gibson Vickie Lacks Catherine Lamberti Virginia Langan Claudia Lapin

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#### **Organizations**

#### \$10,000-\$35,000

Cottage Health Fidelity Charitable Schwab Charitable Union Bank

#### \$5,000-\$9,999

American Riviera Bank Copper Point Insurance Goldman Sachs Philanthropy Fund Mission Wealth Montecito Bank & Trust QAD UBS Financial Services, Inc

#### \$2,500-\$4,999

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#### \$1,000-\$2,499

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American Riviera Bank Candles In The Rain Casa Dorinda The Chispa Foundation Farm Cart Organics NB & Associates Santa Barbara Yacht Club Sunstone Winery The Terrace Foundation

## Foundations

#### \$50,000-\$75,000

Ann Jackson Family Foundation John C. Mithun Foundation Schlinger Chrisman Foundation

#### \$25,000-\$49,999

Herbert & Elaine Kendall Charitable Foundation Kirby-Jones Family Foundation The Mastick Foundation Inc. The Fred Maytag Family Foundation Santa Barbara Foundation St. Francis Foundation The Wood-Claeyssens Foundation

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The Amgen Foundation B & B Foundation BP Moser Trust California Community Foundation The Charitable Foundation Connie Frank Foundation Rudi Schulte Family Foundation

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VNA Health's annual giving society of distinguished Community Members

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## Samaritan Society

Individuals who have made a provision for VNA Health in their will or trust

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Dorbe Holden Jan Hollister Phil Hons Sandy Jankowski Michael Kinsella Ken Kuroda D'Ann Lawson Matt Lum Loy Lytle Sarah McCarter Jim McClure **Bill McCullough** Joyce McCullough Liv McDonald Maureen McKenna Joyce McKnight Maria Miller Barb Mizes Elaine Nicol Nick Noggle Mary Orr Tondi Page Jerry Pearson Wendy Pearson Marcia Permut Lanette Perry Arlene Radasky Don Reif

Peggy Renker Austin Reynolds Judi Richards Corinne Rink Glenn Ritsema Karen Roberts Marylynn Rohrbach Alan Romero Solorzano Barbara Rook Audrey Rose Linda Ruffton Chris Salvetti **Carole Sebits** Sally Sheridan Heather Smith Branden Song David Sparer Jan Speier Aaron Stein Arlene Stepputat Kay Stevens Janet Stich Alison Strelich Cheryl Sweeney Susie Thomason Nevin Trampenau Diana Trautwein Virginia Urschel

Wendy Varnals Wini White Maude Williamson Mary Woodyard Sheri Wright Erfan Zeyaei Kajbaf Neda Ziaei Kajbaf

WE'RE ALL IN THIS OF SECOND



We encourage everyone in our community to make a generous donation to VNA Health. Let's show them how much we appreciate the work they do. Your donation will strengthen their ability to care for Santa Barbara families for years to come. They are steady, strong, and unwavering in their support for our community. Your donation is critical to their continued success. We're all in this together!

SUSAN AND JEFF BRIDGES

GIVE TODAY vna.health/donate

## **2021 Appreciation Garden**

VNA Health is honored and grateful to receive donations in memory or honor of a loved one. These gifts are an enduring tribute that support our belief that every person deserves to live with health and dignity. You can make a gift in memory or honor of someone in any of the following ways:

#### MAIL

VNA Health Foundation 509 E Montecito St, Suite 200 Santa Barbara, CA 93103

#### ONLINE

vna.health/donate

#### PHONE

(805) 690-6290

In recognition of your gift, your loved one's name is placed in our online Appreciation Garden, which we refresh seasonally. Names are placed in the Appreciation Garden every Friday and remain posted for 60 days.

#### VISIT OUR APPRECIATION GARDEN: vna.health/garden

Donations in lieu of flowers can be a wonderful way to honor the memory of a loved one. For Memorial Giving, the following language can be used in obituaries:

"In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in memory of (NAME) to VNA Health Foundation."

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Clara & Evald Elmer Barbara French Robert Grant Auntie Rebecca Guron Jane Habermann Dr. Janet Hranicky **Rick Keith** Grandma Linda Kiefer Steve & Janet Lew Loan Closet Staff Auntie Melissa Mabuchi Lailan McGrath Auntie Anna McMurray David Moorman Janet Murphy, RN Judy Murphy

Dr. & Mrs. Ralph K. Nair Patricia Niven Nurses Everywhere Dairine Pearson, MSW Susan Poprock Dr. Kurt Ransohoff Stefanie Rashti, NP Judy Rawles Linda Reed **Daniel Reeves** Lois Reynolds Roger Reynolds Karen Roberts Elizabeth Hurley Schmitz Serenity House Volunteers Joseph Shaieb

Theodore Edward Shrode Rob Sparrow Jennie & Julie Strait Carol & Hugh Templeton Lynn Thrash Chris Toomey Julie Vanderwilt Erica Victor Visiting Nurses Visiting Nurses of Santa Ynez Valley VNA Health Staff Wonderful Physical Therapists Aaron Zucherman

#### IN HONOR & MEMORY OF OUR LOVED ONES

## remembering

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2021

#### IN HONOR & MEMORY OF OUR LOVED ONES

## remembering

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#### IN HONOR & MEMORY OF OUR LOVED ONES

## remembering

Sherrill Rommel Donald Rose Diane Ross Yolanda Ross Patricia Ruja Jessie Salvador Nancy Salvucci Mary Sauceda Barlett M. Saunders Stephen M. Sawicki Stefani Schatz Mike Schultz Dick Scoby Richard L. Scoby Kermit A. "Kip" Seefeld Rosa Servin-Lopez Harold Shapiro Charlene Shaw Stanley Shaw John LeBaron Shellabarger Mary Ann Shelton Giannino Siben Kenneth Simon Muriel Siry Margaret Skeen Esther Sloan Bertie Smith Nebhut Smith Ronald T. Smith Vera Ruth Smith Josephine Sneddon William A. Soto Glory Anna South Frank Souza Harris A. Sprecher Charles E. Stevens Joe Stinner Larkin Robert Stites Robert A. Stoll

Irene Sumansky Walter Sumansky Danny Sutherland Jadao Suzuki Alice B. Sykes Blaine E. Taylor, Sr. Sarah Teitelman Barbara Tellefson Terry Thayer Tammy Marie Thibault Tom Thoreson Arden Timm Patricia Tisdale Waldo Rudolph Tobler Patricia "Patty" Tompkins Edo Tonello Mark Torrey Virginia Ann Townley Linda Travers Tom Turbeville Nadine Turner Gregg R. Tyler Kay Van Horn Bob van Wagner James R. Van Wagner Garrett Van Wyk All Vargas Family Carmen Vargas Cathy Vargen Deanna Vazquez Regina Venegas Suzanne Vernhurst Lynn Vine Andreas Vogel Kay Von Horn Dr. Edward Wallace Daniel K. Ward Robert Theodore Ward Terry Warden

Gladys Warren Madonna Wasco Douglas Chandler Watson Betty Watt Michael Werner Patty Whalen George White James White **Richard Whited** Gary Wilcox Philip Wilcox Frank Williams William Wise Mary Wolthausen Sally Wright William "Bill" Wright Amedeo Zandona Margaret Zaninovich Pilulaw Zarate-Khus





"It means the world. So nice to have one thing be simple and readily available when everything else in life is difficult!"

SABRINA B.

#### **NEED MEDICAL EQUIPMENT?**

The Loan Closet at VNA Health has durable medical equipment such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, canes, and bathroom safety items ready to lend to Santa Barbara County residents at no charge. To inquire about availability of equipment or to make an appointment, please call (805) 690-6235 or email loancloset@vna.health. "Significa el mundo. Es bueno tener una cosa ser tan simple y estar disponible ¡cuando todo lo demás en la vida es difícil!"

SABRINA B.

#### ¿NECESITA EQUIPO MÉDICO?

El Loan Closet de VNA Health tiene equipo médico duradero, como sillas de ruedas, andadores, muletas, bastones y artículos de seguridad para el baño, listos para prestar, sin costo, a los residentes del condado de Santa Bárbara. Para consultar sobre la disponibilidad de equipos o para hacer una cita, llame al **(805) 690-6235** o envíe un correo electrónico a **loancloset@vna.health**.

#### **CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITIES SINCE 1908**

805.965.5555 vna.health/loancloset





VNA HEALTH HAS EARNED THE JOINT COMMISSION'S GOLD SEAL OF APPROVAL® IN HOME HEALTH CARE, PALLIATIVE CARE, AND HOSPICE CARE.



Golden Heart Award winners are nominated by their co-workers, and this recognition is a tribute of admiration and appreciation for their dedication and hard work.

### **Maggie Mabuchi**

SENIOR DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE / FOUNDATION

#### Team Player Trustworthy Inspiring

Maggie is a fantastic team player, inspiring others to join in, making it fun, and fostering inclusion. She upholds our core values of compassion, integrity, teamwork, and excellence in all that she does. Maggie shows compassionate care to her colleagues, donors, and volunteers through her sympathetic listening and supportive actions. She upholds integrity in the way she conducts herself: respectful, trustworthy, and above all, kind.



#### **Denise Mann**

REGISTERED NURSE CASE MANAGER / HOSPICE - SANTA BARBARA

#### Amazing Nurse Gracious Mentor

Denise is an amazing nurse and employee. She consistently carries a caseload of 20 and high acuity patients; and is always graciously willing to pick up night shifts, weekend shifts, extra visits, and admits whenever help is needed. All of Denise's patients and families love her. Denise is also a regular mentor for our nursing students.



#### **Shandy Newlan**

CLINICAL MANAGER / HOSPICE - SANTA BARBARA

#### Big Heart Above & Beyond Reliable

Shandy's big heart has been integral in VNA Health's success. She supports employees with both compassion and hard work at all times. During this past COVID surge, Shandy went above and beyond the normal call of duty, coordinating antigen testing to keep our staff and patients safe, and doing numerous follow-ups to ensure compliance with COVID protocols. Shandy represents all of VNA Health's core values, both as a nurse and as a leader.









## Our people make the difference. Nuestra gente hace la diferencia.

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## Planning Today to Give Tomorrow

At 14, Dennis Morelos was determined to fulfill his dreams. Despite challenges, he built a fulfilling and financially successful life through hard work, thriftiness, and a little luck. In memory of his wife Soledad, and to honor their wishes, his estate provides for VNA Health's Serenity House. Dennis has come full circle in life, and is giving back to ensure the care at Serenity House is there for those who need it most.

A los 14, Dennis Morelos estaba determinado a cumplir sus sueños. A pesar de los desafios construyo una vida satisfactoria y financieramente exitosa atraves del trabajo duro, el ahorro y un poco de suerte. En memoria de su esposa Soledad y para honrar sus deseos, su patrimonio prevé a VNA Health Serenity House. Dennis ha llenado al círculo completo de la vida y está retribuyendo para garantizar que la atención y el cuidado en Serenity House esté ahí para quienes más la necesitan.

#### GIVE THE GIFT OF A LIFETIME TODAY DA EL REGALO DE SU VIDA HOY

(805) 690-6290 | foundation@vna.health