

We Honor Veterans State Survey

Virginia

January 2012

Demographic Information

What is your organization's current enrollment status in the We Honor Veteran's campaign?

	#	%		#	%		#	%
I'm not familiar with the We Honor Recruit	1	7%	Level 1 Partner	8	57%	Level 3 Partner	2	14%
			Level 2 Partner	1	7%	Level 4 Partner	0	0%
						I don't know what level we are	1	7%
						Not yet, but hope to qualify soon	0	0%

What type of organization are you?

	#	%		#	%
<i>Free-standing hospice</i>	5	38%	<i>Homehealth-based hospice</i>	2	15%
<i>Hospital-based hospice</i>	6	46%	<i>Other healthcare organization</i>	0	0%
			<i>Mixed</i>	8	57%
			<i>Highly Rural</i>	0	0%

Is your organization urban, rural, mixed or highly rural?

	#	%		#	%
<i>Urban</i>	0	0%	<i>Mixed</i>	8	57%
<i>Rural</i>	6	43%	<i>Highly Rural</i>	0	0%

Does your organization serve Veterans in rural areas?

	#	%		#	%
<i>Yes</i>	13	93%	<i>No</i>	1	7%

Indicate VISN identified in service area

	#	%		#	%
<i>VISN5</i>	2	20%	<i>VISN6</i>	8	80%

Driving distance (miles) from your organization to nearest VA Medical Ctr

	#	%		#	%		#	%
<i>0 - 10</i>	2	15%	<i>11 - 20</i>	1	8%	<i>21 - 40</i>	4	31%
						<i>>40</i>	6	46%

Driving distance (miles) to nearest VA outpatient clinic

	#	%		#	%		#	%
<i>0 - 10</i>	5	36%	<i>11 - 20</i>	2	14%	<i>21 - 40</i>	5	36%
						<i>>40</i>	2	14%

Type of formal relationship, if any, you have with your local VA Medical Center

	#	%		#	%		#	%
<i>Contract</i>	0	0%	<i>PA</i>	6	43%	<i>None</i>	6	43%
						<i>Other:</i>	2	14%

Does your organization participate in a Hospice-Veteran Partnership?

	#	%		#	%
<i>Yes</i>	8	62%	<i>No</i>	5	38%

How much emphasis do you feel your state organization places on end-of-life care for Veterans?

MEAN

3.64

	# of Resp	None	Little	Some	Fair amount	Great deal
	14	0	1	4	8	1
		0%	7%	29%	57%	7%

KEY: Negative (1+2) Neutral (3) Positive (4+5)





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Veteran Emphasis

Within the last two years, which, if any, of the following has taken place with your organization?

	MEAN		# of Resp	1 None	2 Little	3 Some	4 Fair amount	5 Great deal
Have increased our Veteran caseload	3.15		13	1 8%	4 31%	3 23%	2 15%	3 23%
Have received referrals from VA staff	3.38		13	0 0%	2 15%	6 46%	3 23%	2 15%
Have experienced increased awareness of the unique needs of Veterans	4.62		13	0 0%	0 0%	1 8%	3 23%	9 69%
Have found it easier to work with our local VA Medical Center or outpatient clinic	3.69		13	1 8%	2 15%	1 8%	5 38%	4 31%

VA/Community Interface

How do you rate your organization's understanding in the following areas?

	MEAN		# of Resp	1 Very Poor	2 Poor	3 Fair	4 Good	5 Very Good
Benefits to which Veterans are entitled	4.15		13	0 0%	0 0%	3 23%	5 38%	5 38%
How to assist Veterans access their benefits	4.08		12	0 0%	0 0%	3 25%	5 42%	4 33%
How to assist Veterans enroll in VA	4.15		13	0 0%	0 0%	2 15%	7 54%	4 31%

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VA/Community Interface (cont.)

			1	2	3	4	5
		# of Resp	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good
How to assist terminally ill Veterans with expedited enrollment in VA	4.00	13	0 0%	1 8%	2 15%	6 46%	4 31%
The needs of Veterans by war, trauma, or population	4.00	13	0 0%	0 0%	4 31%	5 38%	4 31%
Practical use of the Military History Checklist	4.08	12	0 0%	1 8%	2 17%	4 33%	5 42%
Key aspects of the VA's national hospice and palliative care program	4.08	13	0 0%	1 8%	1 8%	7 54%	4 31%
Key aspects of the hospice and palliative care program(s) of the VA Medical Center(s) closest to you	3.77	13	0 0%	2 15%	2 15%	6 46%	3 23%
Benefits of community organizations partnering with VA to better serve Veterans	3.92	13	0 0%	0 0%	4 31%	6 46%	3 23%

Business Relationship

How do you rate each of the following?





			1	2	3	4	5
		# of Resp	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Very Good
Your organization's ability to help Veterans access needed resources	4.21	14	0 0%	0 0%	4 29%	3 21%	7 50%
Availability of information outlining tools and processes hospices need to know to do business with VA	4.00	14	0 0%	0 0%	4 29%	6 43%	4 29%

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Business Relationship (cont.)

	MEAN		# of Resp	1 Very Poor	2 Poor	3 Fair	4 Good	5 Very Good
Reliability and accuracy of contact information for the VA staff your organization needs to work with	4.36		14	0 0%	0 0%	3 21%	3 21%	8 57%
Approvals for VA-Paid hospice admissions to community hospice	4.21		14	0 0%	0 0%	3 21%	5 36%	6 43%
Approvals for VA-Paid hospice changes in levels of care	4.14		14	0 0%	0 0%	4 29%	4 29%	6 43%
Process for determining continued need for hospice services	4.36		14	0 0%	0 0%	2 14%	5 36%	7 50%

Reimbursement





	MEAN		# of Resp	1 Very Poor	2 Poor	3 Fair	4 Good	5 Very Good
Timeliness of VA reimbursement for VA-Paid hospice care	3.83		12	1 8%	0 0%	2 17%	6 50%	3 25%
Access to reimbursement for all four levels of VA-Paid hospice care	3.73		11	1 9%	0 0%	2 18%	6 55%	2 18%
Your organization's experience in billing your local VA Medical Center	4.00		12	1 8%	0 0%	0 0%	8 67%	3 25%

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Continuity of Care

	MEAN		# of Resp	1 Very Poor	2 Poor	3 Fair	4 Good	5 Very Good
Process to coordinate the transition of Veterans' care between your organization and your local VA Medical Center	4.08		13	0 0%	0 0%	3 23%	6 46%	4 31%
Process to coordinate VA-Paid admission to your organization's hospice inpatient unit	3.57		7	0 0%	2 29%	1 14%	2 29%	2 29%
Process to coordinate admission from the community to VA facility (inpatient HPC unit, acute care, long term care)	3.73		11	0 0%	0 0%	6 55%	2 18%	3 27%
Process to provide after-hour coverage for Veterans whose primary care is provided by a VA physician	3.42		12	0 0%	3 25%	4 33%	2 17%	3 25%

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Written Comments

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Veteran Emphasis

Some of our staff have met with staff at both the Salem VA Medical Center and the Staunton Outpatient Center. Though we do not have a formal agreement with either of these facilities, we do feel that we have facilitated better communication with them and intend to nurture that on an on-going basis.

We are interested in becoming part of a partnership but have not been able to get any information from the Medical Centers about Partnering with us. We have begun meeting with local Veteran Organizations to Partner with.

It appears that the VA has an "exclusive" contract with one hospice org and veterans in our area may or may not be referred to us for homecare. There does not seem to be interest in contracting with another hospice now. Previously, the requirements were unrealistic for an agency of our size. I have been told the requirements are different now, but our agency has not been encouraged to request a contract

VA / Community interface

We are working toward education of staff so that we can become "very good"

Reimbursement

It is sometimes months before we receive payment

Continuity of Care

I am unaware of the second two situations having yet occurred for our Hospice.

We often use our medical director to address problems when we cannot reach VA physician.