

VETS CARING FOR VETS: The Connecticut Rural Veterans Partnership Brochure

Partners

VA Health Care: Close to Home

Vet to Vet Program: The Vet to Vet Program is a peer facilitated mutual educational support meeting/relationship. Veterans are trained as facilitators in order to teach others how to live with and reduce high levels of stress, as well as how to listen and support others who are dealing with end of life issues and trauma disorders.

VA Primary Care Center at Winsted: The VA Primary Care Center provides integrated health care services to help Veterans cope with the readjustment to civilian status, stress, depression, anxiety, or other major life issues.

Hospice/Palliative Care Services: The VA is committed to assuring that all veterans receive comprehensive hospice and palliative care services either in an inpatient setting or in the home. Hospice and palliative care is a covered benefit for all enrolled Veterans.

For more information on local VA services, contact:

**PRIMARY CARE CENTER
WINSTED**
115 Spencer Street
Winsted, CT 06098
(860) 738-6985
Toll Free (866) 808-7921

What is Hospice?

Hospice is a special kind of care for patients and families facing life-limiting illness or condition. At the center of Hospice is the belief that each of us has the right to die pain-free and with dignity, and that our families will receive the necessary support to allow us to do so.

Hospice:

- ❖ Treats the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of the person.
- ❖ Provides care in the person's home, or in a home-like setting.
- ❖ Supports family and caregivers by offering counseling, training and information.
- ❖ Helps people live pain-free and as comfortable as possible to ensure the best possible quality of life.
- ❖ Provides supplies, medicines and equipment needed to maintain quality of life.
- ❖ Honors the wishes of the person.
- ❖ Provides an interdisciplinary group of professionals and paraprofessionals including a medical director, skilled nurses, social workers, therapists, clergy, home health aides, and volunteers.

Connecticut Association of Home Care & Hospice
110 Barnes Road Wallingford, CT 06492
1.203.265.9931
www.cahch.org

Connecticut State Office of Rural Health
Northwestern Connecticut Community College
Park Place East Winsted, CT 06098
1.860.738.6378
www.ruralhealthct.org

Foothills VNA
32 Union Street Winsted, CT 06098
1.860.379.8561

Hospice Veteran Partnership of CT
110 Barnes Road Wallingford, CT 06490
1.203.265.9931
www.hvpofct.org

Salisbury VNA
30A Salmon Kill Road Salisbury, CT 06068
1.860.435.0816
www.salisburyvna.org

U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs
www.va.gov

VNA Northwest
607 Bantam Road Unit F Bantam, CT 06750
1.860.567.6000
www.vnanw.org

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Vets Caring for Vets: The CT Rural Veterans Partnership

The purpose of this project is to recruit veterans and provide a unique hospice volunteer training focusing on Veteran's needs and Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. This specialized training allows Veterans a unique opportunity to care for other Veterans during end of life.

Please consider becoming a trained volunteer as "Vets Caring for other Vets".

To learn more about becoming a hospice volunteer, contact the Volunteer Coordinator at one of the following Visiting Nurse Associations.

Foothills VNA - 1.860.379.8561

Salisbury VNA - 1.860.435.0816

VNA Northwest - 1.860.567.6000

The Veteran's Administration Healthcare System, CT Association for Home Care & Hospice, CT Office of Rural Health, Foothills Visiting Nurse & Home Care, Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association and VNA Northwest, Inc. have collaborated to raise awareness about hospice and VA services available to Veterans in rural Northwestern CT.

VETS CARING FOR VETS:

The Connecticut Rural Veterans Partnership



Share Your Time, Become a Hospice Volunteer



What is your absolutely most precious possession? Your time!

The Vets Caring for Vets: The CT Rural Veterans Partnership is in need of individuals who are willing to share

some of their precious time to help a family that is providing end of life care for a loved one.

Hospice Volunteers work with patients and families through Hospice Providers or through the VA Community Based Outpatient Clinic.

Volunteers work directly with patients and families to provide such services as:

- ❖ Visitation
- ❖ Companionship
- ❖ Emotional support
- ❖ Transportation
- ❖ Respite for caregivers

Trained Hospice volunteers who also are Veterans will have the unique ability to support other Veterans who are terminally ill. The CT Rural Veterans Partnership will provide training in the Hospice philosophy and care model. The training will help Veterans understand their role as hospice volunteers.