

## PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING BOARD ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2006 /2007

The mission of the Old Saybrook Public Health Nursing Board (PHNB) operating in collaboration with the first selectman and the recently established Public Health District is to:

- Ensure nursing services are available to the frail elderly, economically disadvantaged, under-insured or uninsured residents of Old Saybrook.
- Enable the development and expansion of nursing resources by providing financial assistance for continuing education and scholarship programs at no additional cost to the Town.

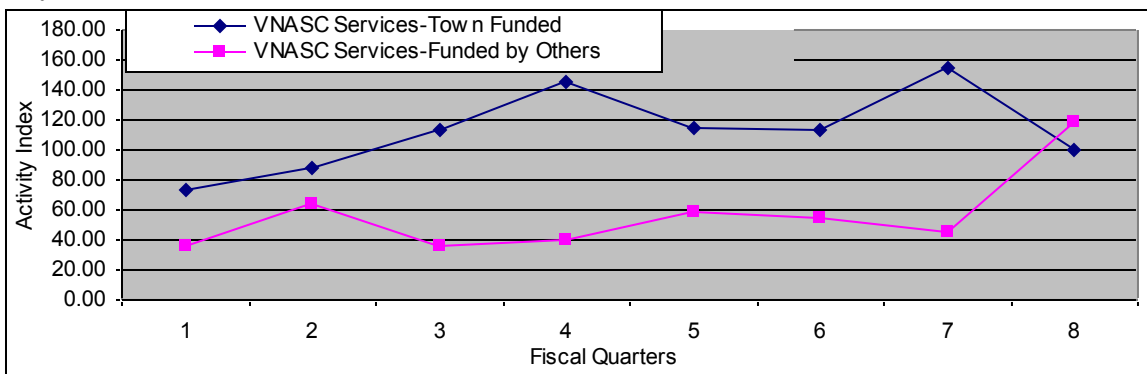
With regard to our first mission statement, our objective is to: 1.) ensure that the quality of health care service remains high; 2.) the needs of our community are met with comprehensive care; and 3.) that the health provider contract is cost effective.

During the 2006/2007 fiscal year the PHNB approved the renewal of the Visiting Nurses Association of Southeastern Connecticut Contract (VNASC) providing nursing services to the residents of the Town of Old Saybrook. The contractual nursing budget for 2007/2008 is **\$41,900.00**. Mary Lenzini, B.S.N., M.A., CHCE is the agency's President and Joanne Dymitruk R.N., M.S.N., M.B.A. is Vice President of Clinical Services.

The VNASC has been very successful in providing nursing care to our residents at minimal cost to the Town. Alternative funding sources were utilized when ever feasible with town funds allocated only as a last resort. During 2006/2007, the total cost to the town of VNASC nursing services under the contractual agreement was **\$25,816.00**. The VNASC provided another **\$22,787.00** of nursing services, covered by alternate funding sources. The PHNB was able to substantially under run our spending budget for services with a surplus of more than **\$16,167.00** by year end.

Town Funding Activity	Actual Spending 2006 /2007	% Incr. / (Decr.) Vs Prior Year	Better / (Worse) Than Budget
VNASC Contractual Nursing Services	\$25,816	38%	\$16,167
Administrative Expenses	\$686	162%	\$14
Total Town Funding	\$26,502	38%	\$16,181
VNASC services funded from other Sources	\$22,787	34%	N/A

As indicated above, overall nursing services funded by the town have been trending higher over the past two years.



VNASC health care services for the residents of Old Saybrook during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007 included:

- **110** nursing visits for the care of the ill, frail elderly, mental health support, maternal child healthcare and communicable disease control.
- **80** homemaker hours to assist patients with their household chores so that they can remain at home.
- **8.5** home health aide hours to provide personal care and assist with activities of daily living helping patients stay in their homes.

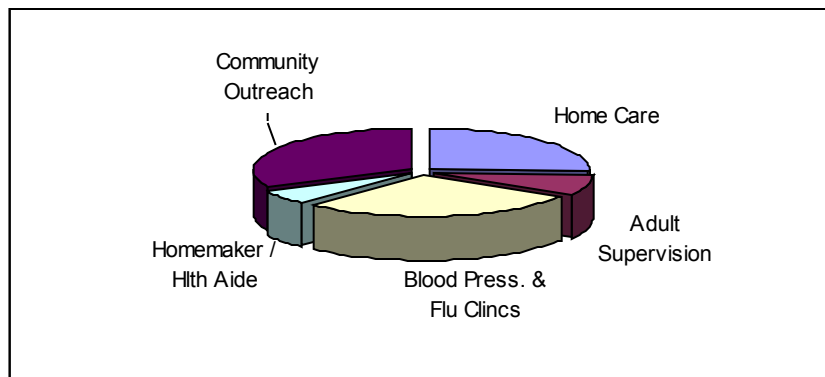
- **285** nursing service hours for flu clinics, blood pressure screening, health counseling.
- **302** flu immunization vaccines were administered.

VNASC was also able to secure alternate funding to provide the following services during fiscal year ending June 30, 2007:

- **862** visits for nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and/or speech therapy
- **28** hours of Home health aide services.

The VNASC provided cholesterol screening, diabetic screening and blood pressure checks at the Estuary Center as well as blood pressure screenings and health education programs at the Saybrooke Village. In addition, the town nurse attended the Soup Kitchen Food Pantry each week to offer health counseling. She also provided blood pressure screenings at the Acton Library. The VNASC participated in the Estuary Health Day, and worked closely with Youth and Family Services, Social Services Department.

As indicated previously, the cost to the town for these services was **\$25,816.00**. The relative disbursement of Town funds for these various activities is demonstrated in the following exhibit



Our second mission is to enable the development and expansion of nursing resources by providing financial assistance for continuing education and scholarship programs at no additional cost to the town. Our objective is to provide private funding for these programs without impacting the overall financial integrity of our existing endowment. We currently manage two private endowments – The “Flanagan Fund” and the “Nightingale Fund”. The following table summarizes the current financial condition of these funds.

Endowment	Balance On-hand	Percent Incr. / (Decr.)		Interest Generated	Percent Incr. / (Decr.)
Flanagan Fund	\$96,485	4.8%		\$5,048	78%
Nightingale Fund	\$36,288	1.3%		\$1,961	48%
Total Endowment	\$132,773	3.8%		\$7,009	69%

To supplement these financial resources, the PHNB sponsored its second annual scholarship appeal to the residents of Old Saybrook. The appeal was very successful raising an additional **\$4,690.00**. These funds combined with the interest generated from our endowments allowed us to offer three **\$2000.00** nursing scholarships. The scholarships were awarded to Sara Ferrantelli, Kristen Leighton and Pamela Murac all graduates of Old Saybrook High School. Also this year, **\$1,200.00** was given to the public school nurses to help fund their attendance at the summer in-service education seminar in New York City and **\$150.00** to purchase a Nutrition Book for the Acton Library Flanagan Medical Information Center.

PHNB members include: Janet-Hodge-Burke, Sharon Craft, Cathy Custer, Diane Aldi DePaola, Robert Hallisey, and Thomas McKean. PHNB meetings are regularly scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month of the year with the exception of the months of July and August. Meetings are held in the Old Saybrook Town Hall.

**Diane Aldi DePaola, *Chairman***