

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING BOARD

During the 2017/2018 fiscal year the PHNB approved the renewal of the Visiting Nurses Association of Southeastern Connecticut (VNASC) contract providing nursing services to the residents of the Town of Old Saybrook. Mary Lenzini, B.S.N., M.A., CHCE is the agency's president and Tina Belmont BSN is town nurse. VNASC affiliated with Yale New Haven Health in September of 2016 and is the only homecare organization in the YNH system.

The PHNB budget for 2018/19 submitted to and approved by the selectmen is \$42,653 of which \$26,617 is earmarked for the VNASC nursing contract, \$14,836 is earmarked for primary and secondary public health services by other providers, and \$1,200 for administrative expenses.

The VNASC continues to be successful in providing nursing care to our residents at minimal cost to the Town. Alternative funding sources were utilized whenever feasible, with town funds allocated only as a last resort. During 2017/2018 FY, the total cost to the Town of VNASC nursing services was \$29,409 which met the contractual agreement budget of \$29,409. The VNASC provided another \$25,840 of nursing services, covered by alternate funding sources. Of the \$12,044 budgeted for nursing services not covered by the VNASC contract \$15,517 was spent.

PHNB Funding Activity	Actual Spending 2017/2018	Below / (Over) The Budget
VNASC Contractual Nursing Services	\$ 29,409	\$0
Administrative Expenses	\$ 1,053	\$147
Un-contracted PH/ Nursing Services	\$15,517	(\$3,473)
Total Spending FY 17/18	\$ 45,979	(\$3,326)
VNASC Services paid by other Sources	\$25,840	NA

The VNASC provided a variety of health/nursing and outreach services paid by town funds for the residents of Old Saybrook during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. Services provided were; cholesterol and diabetes screening, diabetes education, blood pressure clinics and counselling, foot care clinics, health counselling and referrals. The total number of people served by these programs was 496; total visits by these clients were 1103. Nursing Service hours spent in outreach home visits was 16 hours and 369 Nursing hours was spent in community outreach, health education and advocacy. A new information Brochure was published highlighting the services presented by the Public Health Nursing Board.

In FY 2017/18 the PHNB continued to fund nutrition education in town. Nutritionist Kathy Cobb, MS, RD. offered a program called "Grub Club" to Middle School students; she presented 21 cooking sessions from September 2017 through May 2018. Students were taught the importance of eating a balanced diet of healthy foods and how to prepare it. The program is one of the most popular after school programs with 44 students participating this year. The cost of "Grub Club" was \$1,217. Please read more about this innovative program on the PHNB web-site. The second nutrition program the PHNB helped fund, was the Kidz Lunch Bunch, a free summer lunch was offered four days weekly for 5 weeks. There were 226 meals served. The PHNB provided a \$800 grant to support of this program; please read more about this Kidz Lunch Bunch on the PHNB town website.

Old Saybrook Social Services requested grant funding from the PHNB for FY 2018/19. In FY 2017/18 the PHNB allocated two grants, \$3,300 for emergency medical care and a \$1,500 grant for personal health and hygiene supplies. In 2017/18 there were 416 Old Saybrook residents were served by the emergency medical program; these individuals have complicated health issues and lack the resources to pay for their medical/health care. The Emergency Medical Fund helped pay for: emergency prescription refills, transportation to doctor, chemotherapy, and radiation appointments, as well as dressings and medical supplies, etc. Last year's hygiene grant served 769 Old Saybrook residents offering them assistance with

health/hygiene supplies. The program helped purchase things like: hand sanitizer, toothpaste, soap, diapers (adult/infant), wipes, feminine hygiene products etc. None of these items can be purchased with Food Stamps or WIC coupons. The PHNB provided two grants for FY 2018/19, \$3,500 for emergency medical care and \$2,000 for health/hygiene supplies.

Since 2011, the PHNB has worked in collaboration with other local health professionals to alleviate an identified gap in dental services/care to residents of Old Saybrook. In FY 2017/18, the PHNB allocated \$3,000 for this purpose. In 2017 the Dental Fund also received two public donations, \$200 from the Lions Club of Old Saybrook, \$1000 from the Rotary Club. There were 126 town residents helped by the Dental Fund in 2017-18. The PHNB granted \$5,500 to the dental fund for FY 2018/19.

In FY 2017/18 the Nursing Board received a request from Old Saybrook the Youth & Family Service, Youth Action Council, requesting a \$3,000.00 grant to help fund the “Assets in Action Program”. The PHNB provided a \$3,000.00 grant.

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 three private endowments—the “Flanagan Fund”, “Nightingale Fund”, and the “Morris Fund”. The following table summarizes the current financial condition of these funds:

Endowment	Funds Available
Flanagan Fund	\$ 67,958
Nightingale Fund	\$ 21,726
Morris Fund	\$ 13,221
Total	\$ 102,905

To supplement the Nightingale Scholarship Fund, the PHNB sponsored its annual appeal in March 2018. Appeal letters were mailed to the residents and businesses of the Old Saybrook area; this year’s appeal raised \$4,005. These funds combined with the interest generated from our endowment allowed the nursing board to offer five \$2,500 scholarships this year totaling \$12,500. The scholarships were awarded to: Kathryn DeAntonis, Nellie LaMay, Grace Scherber, Katherine Schumann, and Carlina Spadaccini, recipients plan to attend an accredited nursing/medical program this fall. The PHNB also paid \$9,000 in scholarship funds to the 2017 Nightingale Scholarship recipients: Alyssa Diaz, Camron Gosselin, and Ben VanVliet all graduates of Old Saybrook High School. These recipients completed their first academic year in their respective nursing/medical programs.

PHNB members are: Sharon Craft, Diane Aldi DePaola, Priscilla Funck, Maryann Iadarola, Mary Kennedy, Don Mill, Elizabeth Owen, and Joseph Termine. PHNB meetings are regularly scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month with the exception of the months of July and August. Meetings are held in the Old Saybrook Town Hall. Please visit the Public Health Nursing Board on the Town of Old Saybrook web-site for more detailed information.

Diane Aldi DePaola BA, RN, *Chairman*