



VISITING NURSE ASSOCIATION  
OF SOUTH CENTRAL CONNECTICUT, INC.

## News Release

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For Immediate Release

### **VNA/SCC AIDS Patients Benefit from AIDS Walk New Haven Donation**

New Haven, CT (July 8, 2009) – The Visiting Nurses Association of South Central Connecticut (VNA/SCC) recently received \$1,294 from the 2009 AIDS Walk New Haven, which raises money for individuals and families infected and affected by HIV/AIDS in the Greater New Haven Community.

“We are grateful for the donation from AIDS Walk New Haven,” said Carla Giugno, VNA/SCC’s Vice President of Clinical Services. “It will help to provide our AIDS patients with much needed resources that will enhance their quality of life.” The VNA/SCC serves AIDS patients in Milford, the Valley, Greater New Haven, and the Shoreline.

Not only is the VNA/SCC a recipient of the AIDS Walk New Haven funds, but they are also a participant in the event. Co-captains Ellen Rubin, an APRN who works with AIDS patients, and Denise Perelli, the agency’s receptionist, helped to raise money from VNA/SCC employees. Rubin and Perelli have participated in the walk together for the past three years.

“It was nice to see everybody come together in support of AIDS. The fundraiser had numerous activities including yoga as a warm up before the rigorous 5k walk, speakers, and free AIDS testing,” Perelli said about the community event. “The speakers were engaging, yet humorous, when telling their stories about living with HIV/AIDS.”

According to Justin Berk, Director of AIDS Walk New Haven, this year the walk raised over \$30,000 and over \$18,000 was distributed to organizations that help provide essential services to individuals with HIV/AIDS and their affected families. The VNA/SCC was one of ten recipient organizations.

According to the AIDS Walk New Haven website, for the past four years, AIDS Walk New Haven has brought teams of families, friends, students, volunteers, teammates, and co-workers together to bring awareness to the AIDS epidemic in the community. The event runs with the help of volunteers whose goals are to raise money, increase public awareness, promote prevention through advocacy, and unite the Yale University and New Haven communities against stigma, apathy and infection. For more information about AIDS Walk New Haven, call (806) 433-3960.

### **About The Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut**

Founded in 1904, the VNA/SCC, the original VNA of New Haven, Milford and the Valley, is a state licensed, non-profit, community based home health care agency. The VNA/SCC staff consists of highly skilled nurses, therapists, medical social workers and home health aides. A vital resource to the communities it serves, the VNA/SCC provides a wide range of specialized clinical services, community programs, the Nurturing Families Network and subsidized care to those who are in need. The agency employs over 240 staff members, has an average daily census of over 1,000 patients and makes over 150,000 home visits per year. The agency is the founder of the *Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing*. The VNA/SCC is supported in part by The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, local United Way organizations, corporate sponsors and individual donors. The agency has a private-duty affiliate, CareSource. CareSource strives to maximize the quality of life for its clients and their caregivers in the home and health care settings. Their services include private duty nursing, homemakers, companions and live-in home health aides. Both VNA/SCC and CareSource are CHAP (Community Health Accreditation Program) accredited. To learn more about the organizations, log onto [www.vnascc.org](http://www.vnascc.org) or [www.caresourceinc.org](http://www.caresourceinc.org). To view quality information about VNA/SCC, as reported by Medicare, log onto [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) and click on the link: Compare Home Care Agencies.

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