

COVID Affected Bereavement Support



VNA is part of the frontline solution in our community's battle against COVID-19. Historically, we stepped up to treat those impacted by diseases such as the Polio Epidemic, Spanish Influenza, HIV/AIDS, and H1N1. Today, we bring unmatched expertise in providing healthcare and services to those who are socially isolated during COVID-19.

We know that people who need hospitalization are going to be separated from their loved ones because of limited hospital visitation. Our hospital and long term care partners are doing everything they can to support these patients physically, emotionally and spiritually. But we also know that their family and friends who are separated from their seriously ill or dying loved one are also in need of support. These family members are expected to experience a bereavement that will be unique; their grief may be as much the result of separation as the loss itself.

The mission of VNA continues to be serving our whole community and we would like to offer support to those suffering through this grief.

VNA has developed a program to train and equip a team of *Community Support Partners* to be of comfort and encouragement to loved ones affected by separation. Because this pandemic has affected both COVID and non-COVID patients alike, this program is open to anyone suffering from being separated from their loved one.

If you identify anyone who would benefit from this program, please either send a bereavement referral to the VNA using your usual referral process, call VNA Hospice at 402.930.4261 or email the VNA *COVID Affected Bereavement Support* Coordinator at shmiller@vnatoday.org.

Please be sure to include:

Date of referral

Referring facility

Patient name

Patient date of birth

Patient date of death (if applicable)

Name of the bereaved person(s) and relationship to patient

Contact phone number, including best time to contact, if known

Primary language, if not English



Questions - call VNA Hospice 402-930-4261

Visiting Nurse
Association