



Dartmouth  
Health

Visiting Nurse and  
Hospice for Vermont  
and New Hampshire

October 22, 2024

Dear Council Members and Citizens of Thetford:

We at the Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire (VNH) would like to offer our heartfelt thanks for the opportunity to have our appropriation request included in 2025 funding. **VNH respectfully requests \$13,000 which represents level funding from last year's request.**

As an integral part of the community healthcare system, VNH serves to breach an otherwise significant gap in the community's continuum of care. Last year, VNH provided **1,090 visits to 47 Thetford residents** of all ages and at all stages of life. VNH is also the foremost team of hospice and home health experts for over 140 communities in Vermont and New Hampshire. We deliver nursing, hospice and rehabilitation services at home with proven effectiveness, integrity and compassion. Just as local families have counted on us since 1907, you can count on us today.

Having our patients maintain their independence is key. Our nurses, therapists, social workers and support staff provide assessments, medical care and education to assist people in leading a more self-sufficient and independent life. We also provide support to terminal patients and their families to assure they are comfortable and experience quality of life in their final days. Our patients include the frail, elderly, and disabled often recovering from major surgery or illness as well as children with chronic medical needs. All of our patients benefit by receiving the care they need in the familiarity and comfort of home.

Town funding is what allows us to reduce the cost of services provided to those in need. With adequate town funding, we are able to provide an affordable option for home healthcare throughout the communities we serve. To continue meeting this need, we hope your budget will include continued financial support of Visiting Nurse and Hospice for Vermont and New Hampshire.

On behalf of the people we serve, we thank you for your consideration of this request.

With kind regards,

*Martin J. Degen*

Martin J. Degen  
Chief Financial Officer  
[mdegen@vnhcare.org](mailto:mdegen@vnhcare.org)