

Spirit of VNA



Hospice Care | Meals on Wheels | Private Care

APRIL & MAY 2017



KATHERINE KRAUSE
President & CEO

VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION EVENT

MAY 2

UPCOMING VNA HOLIDAYS

MAY 29

Memorial Day

You've been working so hard... and it shows!

During March, we celebrated March for Meals along with all of the other Meals on Wheels programs throughout the United States. We helped raise awareness by encouraging our existing partners and supporters to volunteer and recruit new volunteers and participate in a social media contest, we accepted donations of pet food, snack bags, lap blankets, and greeting cards, and we helped raise funds for the program by buying t-shirts, eating at restaurants with a portion returning to us, and encouraging more donations. It takes a lot of work by a lot of departments to plan, promote, and coordinate all of these activities and your efforts are greatly appreciated.



Our hospice census has grown through strong marketing and superb clinical team efforts! You are the reason people want their families to be cared for by VNA in their final days, because they want the best care possible. Thank you for working extra hard to care for our fragile patients and bereaved loved ones.

We've got a fun employee event coming up soon and I'm looking forward to celebrating with you! VNA is only as strong as our staff, and recognizing your years of dedicated service and our "Stars of VNA" is truly a pleasure.

We'll be starting a new communication program called Employee Spotlight. With employees focused on their own departments and programs, sometimes we miss the opportunity to get to know the wonderful people in other areas and locations of VNA. Watch for more information on this coming soon!

Thank you again for all you do – your hard work shows and makes a difference!



VNA Buzzzz

VNA Employee Recognition Event

An Afternoon on the

**RED
CARPET
2017**

**Employee
Appreciation
Event**

May 11, 2017
2:00 – 4:00 pm

You're Invited!

Dallas Headquarters, 1600 Viceroy, Dallas 75235

Level 2

Parking garage gates will be open for easy parking

Please plan to join us for this special event! Get interviewed by “Joan Rivers” on the red carpet, hear comments from CEO Katherine Krause, cheer for those with 3, 5, 10, 15, and 20-year service anniversaries, watch as the staff-directed voting for the STAR awards are revealed, and enjoy some cool Ben & Jerry’s ice cream at the conclusion.

Let's Get Quizzical

Play along! Send your answer or make a guess to Mrs. Trivia Newton John at events@vnatexas.org by May 1. A winner will be drawn from the correct entries and receive a gift card!

1. What year was VNA founded?
 - a. 1900
 - b. 1934
 - c. 1943
 - d. 1999
2. How much did the first VNA nurse get paid?
 - a. Nothing – she was a volunteer!
 - b. Minimum wage - \$1/day
 - c. \$1/hour
 - d. \$3.50/hour



Be on the Lookout!

The Dallas Morning News

TOP 100
PLACES TO WORK 2015

In 2014 and 2015, we were voted Top 100 places to work in Dallas. We're hoping to make it into the list again in 2017! Watch for the survey link coming in mid-May.

Got a Story or Photo to Share?

Inspire your coworkers with a story or photo about what you do, a patient/client, volunteer, or other staff member you interact with, or something interesting that happened recently! Email Cara at events@vnatexas.org today!

VNA staff & their families during March for Meals

- 47 DOC groups delivered 3,684 meals
- 6 Friends on Wheels projects – 1,200 shelf stable meals assembled; 440 healthy snack bags assembled; 20 yards mowed
- 22 community champions delivered 109 meals
- 2,712 pounds of pet food delivered to 231 pets
- 212 pairs of socks donated by MOW Teen Board for snowball fight
- 22 new MOW volunteers trained



BIRTH DAYS IN APRIL

TINA RILEY	1	RAEVETT HECTOR	9	ROSILAND BATTY	22
GRACE MWAI	2	DOUGLAS BROADWAY	9	SUSAN BRYAN	23
LISA IMM	2	RONALD ONEAL	12	MARK HARRISON	24
LISA PAYNE	4	CHARMAINE HOGAN	13	DINIA WILLIAMS-DIGGLES	25
BETSY COX	6	PHYLLIS JONES	17	VALERIE PETERSEN	25
EULANDA ADKINS	6	AMELIA ARIJELOYE	21	MILDRED RAY	25
CHUNNER KELBY	7	DARRELL FREY	22	BERTHA REYNA	26
JOYCE LYLES	8	SARAH MILES	22	MARLENE WILLIAMS	26
FREYA GRIMES	8				

Meet Your Teammates

Information Technology Team!

When it's an emergency, we dial 911. But when it is a VNA technology emergency, the number to call is x2999 and expert help is on its way! Every VNA location and every VNA department relies on our Information Technology team to help us keep working in the digital age. Below are the friendly faces behind the phone calls and emails who keep us connected.



Nick, Armondo, Mary, Randy, Juan & Susan

In addition to helping us stay connected every day, the IT team is busy working on several projects. They have already started rolling out iPads to hospice field staff, are beginning the process to oversee development of a mobile application (an app) for Meals on Wheels, and they're making changes to our phone system that will upgrade this summer with some handy features.

Here are some fun facts about the IT team:

- The longest serving employee, Randy, has worked for VNA for 23 years!
- They support 26 main platforms... that's a lot to know and maintain!
- There are typically 20-30 open tickets at any given time. No rest for the weary!

Thank you VNA IT – you're the best!

ARRIKA ADAMS	1	CORINNA TURNER	20	BETTY NEAL	26
MALIK SABOUR	2	TAMMY MCHORSE	22	SUSAN MAGANGA	29
KATHY HENDERSON	7	ERNEST BECKER	22	KIM PETERS	30
CHRISTOPHER PENNA	9	MARK MELTON	24	LAURA BROWN	30
JANA TEMPLETON	17	OLLIE MCCORMICK	24	DWIGHT NEMONS	30
CYNTHIA NITSCHKE	18	ELAINE ALEXANDER	24	EKATERINA BRYNIARSKI	30
AVA MUMPHERY	19	BARBARA FALKINS	26	ALICE VASHER	31

BIRTH DAYS IN MAY