

Here are some highlights that you made possible!

## VNA MEALS ON WHEELS CHALLENGE UPDATES



To date, we have held nine drawings for our VNA Meals on Wheels 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Challenge! A total of 1,164 dedicated volunteers have been entered in the drawings, delivering a total of 17,702 routes and 244,705 meals to our hungry, homebound seniors! We are always in need of more volunteers and groups to deliver meals, ensuring we free up funds to feed more hungry seniors in need. Visit volunteer. vnatexas.org or email volunteer@ vnatexas.org to learn more.

## **PARTNERSHIPS AT WORK**

VNA believes collaboration is key to best meet the needs of those we serve. In partnership with other local nonprofits, VNA is ready to feed our community's most vulnerable neighbors—specifically, Prism Health North Texas' clinics, serving elderly patients; Endeavors, which assists homeless individuals; and the Resource Center, providing



services to LGBTQIA+ seniors. Additionally, VNA is partnering with four area nonprofits to provide case management, transportation, housing assistance, and nutritious food to low-income adults recently diagnosed with cancer. This important collaborative, funded by McKesson, is designed to study the impact of how addressing the whole person may increase the likelihood of patients accessing treatment and how these services impact health outcomes.

## HELPING THE WHOLE PERSON

There has been a great deal of research discussing the importance of the social determinants of health. We know negative health outcomes are only compounded when patients don't have adequate access to food, housing, and transportation in



addition to medical care. To ensure VNA Meals on Wheels is addressing all facets that contribute to health, the VNA Community Health Workers are going into clients' homes to evaluate for additional needs including assistance with housing and transportation, screening for depression, and potential needs for a higher level of clinical support.

## CHILDREN'S HAVEN EXPANDS

VNA's pediatric hospice program, Children's Haven, has served more than 100 patients since its inception in 2021. The dedicated pediatric team—including two full-time child life specialists—has seen increased need in North Texas and is growing



quickly, especially in Tarrant County and the surrounding areas. With only one other pediatric hospice providing care in the Metroplex, it's more important than ever that we are well equipped to handle the vital need for this service.



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