



## Contact – Community VNA

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**Attleboro, MA (July 22, 2020)** – Community VNA of Attleboro, MA and HopeHealth of Providence, RI today announced their intention to affiliate, together forming one of the largest independent home care and hospice agencies in southeastern New England.

The affiliation brings together two of the area's most respected providers of home health care, hospice and palliative care. Since 1911, Community VNA has been a staple in the community, providing home and hospice care to tens of thousands of residents of the greater Attleboro area. HopeHealth, with locations in Providence, Lincoln, Middletown and Wakefield, RI and Brockton, MA, provides hospice and palliative care services, as well as home care to thousands of individuals in the Rhode Island and southeastern Massachusetts area.

"The provision of home health and hospice care has become more regulated and more competitive in the last ten years," said Reynold G. Spadoni, Chief Executive Officer of Community VNA, in a video released to Community VNA staff this morning. "As we continue to charter these unprecedented waters, we sought a partner that could expand upon the reputation for exceptional service and compassionate, highly skilled care we have built over the past 110 years. Together, Community VNA and HopeHealth will provide a complete and compelling post-acute network to include home health, hospice, and community-based and inpatient palliative care."

Under the new affiliation, Community VNA will continue to serve its existing service area (Attleboro, Dighton, Easton, Foxboro, Franklin, Mansfield, Norton, North Attleboro, Plainville, Rehoboth, Seekonk, Taunton and Wrentham). Branded under the new name HopeHealth Community VNA, the organization will look to expand into bordering towns once the affiliation is complete. Local home care and hospice services will be offered from its existing Attleboro office.

"HopeHealth is thrilled to welcome Community VNA to the HopeHealth family of services and I can't think of a better partner with whom to further our not-for-profit mission in service to our respective communities and health care partners," said Diana Franchitto, President & CEO of HopeHealth.

"We are excited about these two vital entities coming together in maintaining a presence in our community," said Joseph FX Casey, President and CEO of Sturdy Memorial Hospital. "Sturdy has a long history of collaboration with Community VNA, as well as a strong relationship with HopeHealth in providing comprehensive inpatient palliative care, two important components across the care continuum."

Spadoni announced that donations and funds raised for Community VNA's programs such as free care, hospice and Alzheimer's programs will remain in HopeHealth Community VNA and continue to support the organization. He also announced that assets which remain in Community Health Systems, the parent company of Community VNA, will be used to create a foundation dedicated to serving the health and wellbeing of the greater Attleboro community. "We are pleased to be able to ensure that the financial resources that have resulted from the hard work of Community VNA donors and staff will remain in the community," continued Spadoni. The details of the Foundation will be communicated in the coming months.

The affiliation, which needs to be approved by regulatory authorities, is anticipated to be completed by January 2021. "We expect that the vast majority of Community VNA employees will remain employed in and based out of the Attleboro office," said Franchitto. Franchitto will continue as the President & CEO of HopeHealth and Spadoni will join HopeHealth as its Chief Strategy Officer when the organizations come together.

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**About Community VNA** -- Community VNA has been dedicated to enhancing health, wellness and quality of life for more than 100 years, providing a wide range of services, including: Home Health Care, Hospice Care, Palliative Care, Alzheimer's Assistance Program, as well as Lifeline services and annual Elder Dental Clinics.

Community VNA has been recognized as a 2019 HomeCare Elite Top 500 agency. This recognition is based on publicly available performance measures in quality outcomes and best practices implementing patient experience, quality improvement and consistency, and financial performance.

For more information, visit <u>CommunityVNA.com</u>.

**About HopeHealth** - For over a century HopeHealth has provided high quality, compassionate care to people in various stages of illness to communities in Rhode Island and Massachusetts. Its roots began in home care in 1908 and then in hospice in 1976, coming together as HopeHealth in 2011 providing home care, palliative care and hospice care. As the second oldest hospice in the country and one of the largest not for profit providers of palliative and hospice care in New England, HopeHealth has set the gold standard in serious illness and end of life care. HopeHealth is the major teaching affiliate of hospice and palliative care of the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University.

For more information, visit <u>HopeHealthCo.org</u>.