

The mission of Concord Regional Visiting Nurse Association is to improve the health of the people and communities it serves by managing illness and promoting wellness through all stages of life.

## FIRE & FALLS INITIATIVE

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# Program Overview

- Target population: 65+, non-transport fall/lift assist.
- Concord Fire Department (CFD) and Penacook Rescue Squad (PRS) partner with Concord Regional VNA (CRVNA) to offer fall prevention/home safety services to residents who have fallen in their home who elect not to be transferred via ambulance to the hospital. EMS staff attain consent from the resident to refer.
- CFD and PRS make a referral to CRVNA.
- CRVNA provides follow up with the resident and the primary care physician to offer a fall risk/ home safety evaluation.

# History -- 2004

Originated in 2004 / 2005 as a result of Crutchfield Towers falls data from the CRHC Falls Task Force.

## Concord Area Services

- Concord Regional VNA . . . . . 2
- NH Helpline . . . . . 800-8
- ServiceLink . . . . . 2
- Riverbend Elder Services . . . . . 2
- Meals on Wheels . . . . . 2
- NH Elderly & Adult Svc. . . . . 2

## Permission for Home Care Referral

*I hereby give permission for the Concord Fire Department to make a Home Care Referral to Concord Regional VNA on my behalf.*



Signature \_\_\_\_\_

DATE \_\_\_\_\_



# History -- 2011



CONCORD REGIONAL  
VISITING NURSE  
ASSOCIATION  
THE SLUSSER CENTER

(603) 224-4093 • www.crvna.org



## Home Care Referral Card

Concord Fire Department has partnered with Concord Regional Visiting Nurse Association to provide you with resources to help maintain your health and independence at home.

As part of this collaborative effort, Concord Fire Department will provide Concord Regional VNA your name to request a Home Safety and Fall Risk Assessment.

As part of the assessment, Concord Regional VNA will complete the following:

- Medical history
- Evaluation for gait disturbances
- Balance assessment
- Assessment of current community based services
- Review of the layout of the rooms in your home

At the conclusion of the assessment, recommendations will be made.

- I hereby give permission for the Concord Fire Department to make a home care referral to Concord Regional VNA on my behalf.*
- I decline a home care referral to Concord Regional VNA at this time.*

Patient Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Concord Fire Department:*

*Weekends, holidays, and after 5pm leave the patient name and contact information with the answering service. Concord Regional VNA will follow-up within 24-48 hours.*

## Concord Area Resources

ServiceLink	(603) 228-6628
NH 211	211

## Reduce Your Risk for Injury at Home

- Remove small throw rugs or use double sided tape to keep rugs from slipping.
- Keep items you use often in cabinets you can reach easily. Avoid using a step stool or standing on your toes.
- Use non-slip mats in the bathtub and on the shower floor. Place a non-slip rug on the bathroom floor.
- Have handrails and lights put on all staircases. Make sure existing handrails are secure.
- Wear shoes that fit properly, give good support, and have non-slip soles.
- Have grab bars installed next to the toilet and bathtub or shower.
- Keep your living areas well-lit and free from objects that may cause you to trip or fall.
- Consider rearranging your furniture to leave plenty of room for someone to pass.
- Keep all electrical cords out of walkways and never under rugs.
- Always speak to your physician & pharmacist regarding your medications, both prescribed and over the counter. Ask how the medication works, about potential side effects and how to store the medication.



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VISITING NURSE  
ASSOCIATION | YOUR  
CHOICE  
FOR

**120**  
YEARS

## Conditions for Home Care

- A physician order is required.
- A physician must certify the patient needs one or more of the following:
  - Intermittent skilled nursing care
  - Physical therapy
  - Speech-language pathology services
- Patient must be homebound. CRVNA determines this in the home.
  - Patients may leave home for medical treatment or short, infrequent absences for non-medical reasons, like attending religious services. Patients can still receive home health care if they attend adult day care. <sup>(1)</sup>
- The Intake team at Concord Regional VNA works with the patient's physician and care team to attain necessary orders.

<https://www.medicare.gov/coverage/home-health-services>  
<https://www.medicare.gov/sites/default/files/2018-07/10969-medicare-and-home-health-care.pdf>

# Funding

## **Built into Home Care Service Line**

- For patients who meet the conditions of home care
  - Covered 100% on Medicare and Medicaid
  - Covered subject to any applicable deductibles / coinsurances for private insurers
- If it is determined during the admission assessment that the client does not meet the conditions of home care; Concord Regional VNA provides that visit at no cost to the patient.

## Today's Process

- When a patient is not transported to the hospital, the EMS provider will explain the partnership and request the patient sign the consent to refer to CRVNA.
- EMS provider communicates the patient name, DOB, address, and telephone number to CRVNA Intake.
- CRVNA Intake will contact the patient to get permission to contact the primary care physician (PCP) for the order.
- CRVNA will contact the PCP office to provide update on recent fall and request a physical therapy order for a fall risk/ home safety evaluation.



## Successes

- Increased collaboration between community service providers.
- Offers an opportunity for those aging in our community to access needed in home or outpatient services.

## Challenges

- System limitations on automated processes across all EMS providers.
- Time constraints on scene
- Competing priorities
- Patients refusing care



## Contact Information

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