



2022

Impact Report



VISITING NURSE
HEALTH SYSTEM

Visiting Nurse Health System

Cheers to 75 Years!

MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS



DOROTHY DAVIS
PRESIDENT & CEO



RAYMOND HUTTON
BOARD CHAIR

As our 75th anniversary approaches and we reflect on the impact we have had in Georgia, we recognize that we would not have been able to help so many for so long without the strong support of our community. As the first and largest non-profit health and hospice organization in Metro Atlanta, we are more committed than ever to continue delivering quality health care and other services to our fellow Georgians for the next 75 years.

There will be challenges. Increasing costs of delivering care, political and regulatory changes, and the impact of large for-profit health systems will likely have an adverse affect on the availability of care to many low-income Georgians. Providing care to and advocating for these neighbors is a challenge we whole-heartedly accept. Your support is critical to meeting that challenge.

As a not-for-profit healthcare organization competing in a for-profit healthcare arena, we have our work cut out for us to fulfill our mission. Unlike for-profit healthcare companies, we do not refuse care due to an inability to pay. To help paint the picture, in 2022 alone, Visiting Nurse Health System delivered \$1.2 million in charitable care. This past year the cost and healthcare burdens that are affecting our vulnerable, low-income Georgia communities continued to rise. Affected by healthcare changes outside of their control like the closure of Atlanta Medical Center in August 2022 and the post-pandemic requirement to requalify for low-income support, our patients need us now more than ever, so they can age or transition with dignity in comfort of their home surrounded by those they love and supported by quality, compassionate health care professionals.

Navigating the next 75 years successfully will only be possible with continued community support. And the need for support will only increase as the population ages and costs for care increase. We are confident that our supporters, including healthcare partners, corporations, foundations and individual community members, see the need for supporting our community with access to quality healthcare. And we believe Visiting Nurse Health System is the organization to meet that need.

Thank you for taking this journey with us.

Dorothy and Ray

2022 VNHS EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR: BERYL VAUGHNS



Beryl Vaughns was named the VNHS 2022 Employee of the Year. Having been an employee since 2005, Beryl has been an exemplary example of mission alignment and living our values, and we are excited to acknowledge her unprecedented contributions. Throughout her tenure, her passion, hard work, dedication, and compassion towards our patients and our healthcare partners remains unparalleled. We celebrate Beryl's accomplishments, her mission-driven approach that drives her actions each day, and for her unwavering commitment to her patients, team and this organization.



IMPROVING THE LIVES OF THOSE WE SERVE

The need is *great.*

As Atlanta's safety net provider of healthcare and aging services in the home, Visiting Nurse Health System has the ultimate challenge to overcome:

We have an unlimited amount of patients *in need* of our care, but we have limited financial resources to deliver care.

Georgia's need for our Charitable Care program is greater today than ever before. Our state has the 9th fastest growing population of people age 60 and over, and the number of people who are uninsured or on Medicaid is also increasing. Daunting, but this is only part of the story. It is estimated that the devastating impact of COVID in 2020 caused the average life expectancy in the U.S. to fall by 1.5 years. But the reduction wasn't shared equally. The life expectancy for Native Americans fell 4.5 years and 3 years for Blacks and Hispanics as compared to 1.2 years for whites. Tracking with other health trends: Black and Hispanic people and those living in poverty in the U.S. have worse health outcomes than the overall population, including higher blood pressure, higher rates of diabetes, and higher instances of maternal/infant mortality.

Healthcare leaders like us have joined to tackle health equity head on. This year, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) launched its healthcare equity initiative including policies and programs designed to support health for all people. These initiatives aim to eliminate avoidable differences in health outcomes experienced by people who are disadvantaged or underserved, while providing the care and support that people need to thrive.

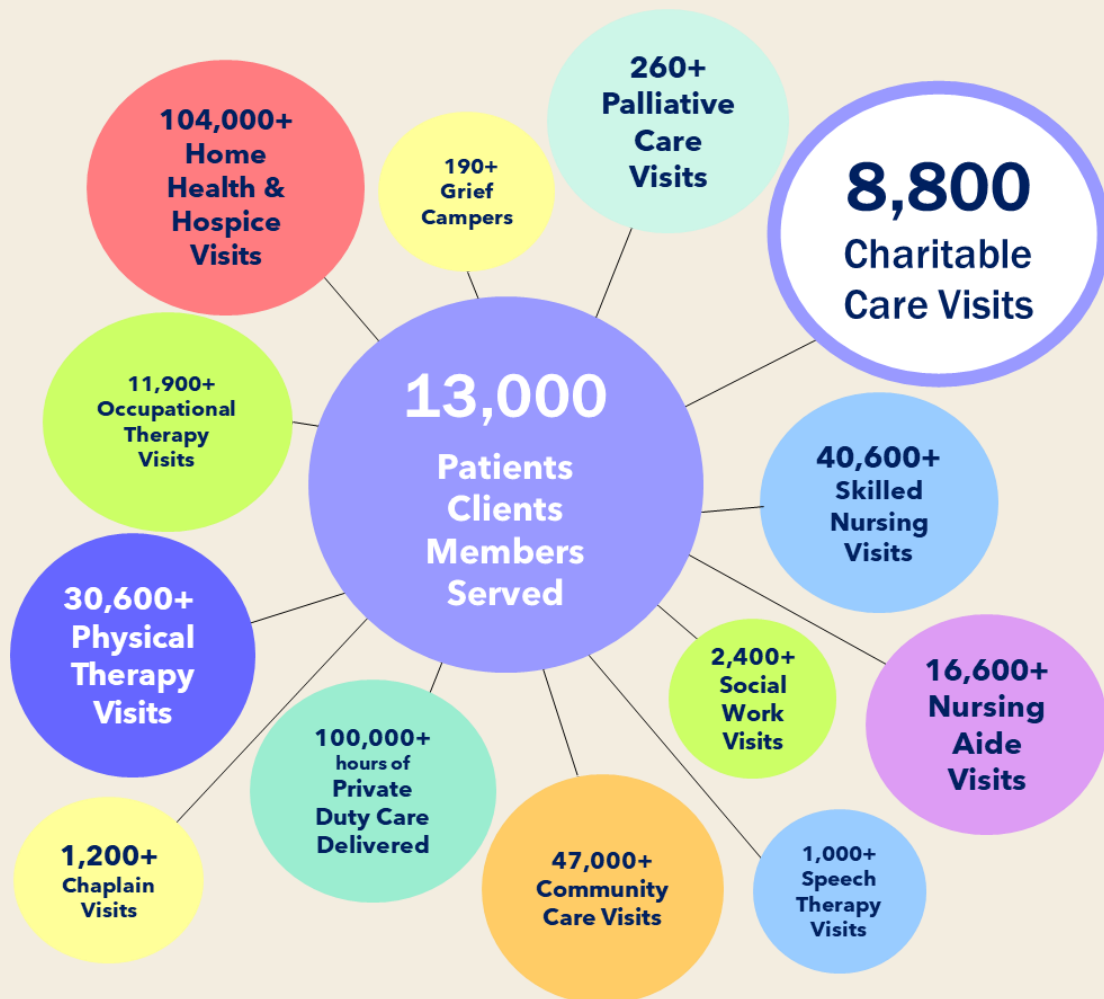
Public health researcher and author Dr. Arline Geronimus from the University of Michigan introduced a new concept in healthcare called "weathering." Her research shows that marginalized people suffer nearly constant stress from living with poverty and discrimination, which damages their bodies at the cellular level and leads to increasingly serious health problems over time. Geronimus named this chronic stress "weathering" and said it, "literally wears down your body systems so that you become chronologically old at a young age." Geronimus added, "It's not that every Black person has more damage than every white person; it's really about how much stress versus social support you get in your everyday life. Because African Americans and low-income Americans are more likely to suffer more of these stressors, they are more likely to be weathered."

At Visiting Nurse we carry a heavy burden as Atlanta's largest and oldest non-profit, in-home care safety-net provider. It intensifies daily as we ride the wave of healthcare industry challenges, and as we compete in a market with for-profit providers, all while watching the care needs grow in both volume and complexity. In our 75th year, the organization's philanthropic goal is to build a Charitable Care endowed fund to ensure we can care for underserved Georgians well into the future.

We need your *support*  to meet this challenge.

You've impacted *many* lives.

With your support, Visiting Nurse continues to be staffed and ready as Atlanta's safety net care provider of choice. We care for the most vulnerable seniors in need with dignity in the comfort of their homes, regardless of zip code. With your support, we continue to do our part to overcome barriers in healthcare, like health disparity and health inequity, that keep patients from receiving the healthcare and aging services support they deserve. With board-certified, licensed clinicians serving each day of the year, in 2022 Visiting Nurse was able to deliver \$1.2 million in Charitable Care into the homes of our patients, clients and members who may otherwise have gone without healthcare services.



2022 CHARITABLE CARE DELIVERED

\$1,200,000

The LIVES You Impacted



HOME HEALTHCARE

VISITING NURSE HEALTH SYSTEM

Day 1 with PT



Day 21 with PT



grateful to walk again

Shown here is patient Ms. Roberta on day 1 of Home Health physical therapy, unable to stand, take steps or walk. Then with physical therapy in her home, she learned to stand and walk again, making big progress in 3 short weeks at 96 years old after breaking her leg.

Roberta's daughter shared, "My mother has been working with PT for 3 weeks. Before, she could not stand or straighten her leg, and so she has made a lot of progress with the help of Ms. Sandee [Visiting Nurse Home Health Physical Therapist]."

The LIVES We Impact



COMMUNITY CARE
VISITING NURSE HEALTH SYSTEM

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"I am living proof that this care works!

I can get up and go to bathroom ON MY OWN now!
I can go cook my own meals now. [Visiting Nurse and Providers] give me the “want” to do things. So I feel, “okay I can do this” and it FEELS GOOD!

My family is so excited! They see me moving now, and sometimes they tell me to slow down! I get too excited because I can do things now! Ohhhhh and my grandkids! I ENJOY being able to play with my grandkids – and great grands too! They come and see me now, like on Mother's Day I had a full day of visitors!

The doctors are happy too. Dr. Cooper says he's proud of me, he says I am doing good.

Feels good to be back to my old self, feeling good, again. See, folks get down, they want to feel like they used to and they can't. But with your help, I feel great!"

Deidre, Community Care Member

"I am living proof
that this care
works!"

The Power of Having the *right* Care



HOSPICE ATLANTA

VISITING NURSE HEALTH SYSTEM



COMMUNITY CARE

VISITING NURSE HEALTH SYSTEM

In Loving Memory of Inez

Meet Inez, our former patient whose family is passionate about care at home, having been the recipient of 2 of Visiting Nurse Health System's services. Caring for Ms. Inez since 2011, she and her family are grateful that Inez can age in the comfort and ease of her home with Visiting Nurse's care by her side.

"My mom Inez just turned 107 and we are looking towards 120! Visiting Nurse is a God-send. They are a major resource 24 hours a day, so it makes us sleep well. This is a major accomplishment as the caregivers. We can sit back and let them take over."

"The touch. The Love. The care and the tenderness. We wouldn't be here without Visiting Nurse - they are a God-send. We are going to take this one to the end."

Barrington, Caregiver and Son

Cost of Caring...

in the home

Visiting Nurse Health System has been serving Georgia's largest population of underserved, elderly patients by delivering quality aging and healthcare services in the home. With current healthcare costs for in home care providers and cost to hire, train and retain top clinical talent, continues to be a challenge.

To deliver this care, our costs continue to rise, unequally to the cost for care delivery into the homes of over 13,000 patients annually that count on our clinicians each day.

47

Counties Served



In 2022

1.1 million

Miles Driven

TRUE COST OF CARE IN THE HOME:

Cost of ONE Day
of Hospice Care \$100

Cost of ONE
Home Health Visit: \$175

Cost of ONE Month of
Community Care Case
Management: \$150

Cost of ONE Hour
Private Duty RN: \$75

Cost of ONE
Palliative Care Visit: \$100

Cost of ONE Hour
Private Duty CNA: \$27

"It's **ALL** about how much you care.

We give away millions of dollars in free care each year. We wrap around the entire family, listening to our patients and their loved ones.

EVERYONE deserves to have the care they need. The need is growing and we need your help."

Employee Bev Roberts, LPN

We couldn't have done it without your generous *support.*



The support from you, our community, this year has been an invaluable to Visiting Nurse Health System to have a greater impact on our Georgia community in need.

From volunteer time and talent, gift-in-kind donations, and donors digging deep to give financial support, we:

- ▶ Supported 425 employees to drive over 1.1 million miles to deliver care throughout Georgia.
- ▶ Improving the lives of over 13,000 clients, members and patients seen this year.
- ▶ Helped over 170 individuals attend Camp STARS to receive support on their grief journey.
- ▶ Launched the Visiting Nurse/Emory Nursing Emersion training program sustaining healthcare in the home.

To cover the cost of true charitable care, we must continue to connect, educate and spread the word throughout our communities. This year we are proud to have the committed support of the newly launched **Healthcare Champions**.

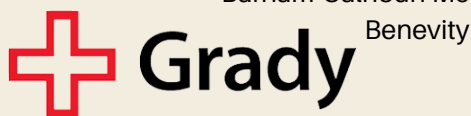
This group of generous leaders have committed to take Visiting Nurse into their communities, spreading the word to find mission alignment between those in need, and those who have the ability to support those in need.



Thank you to those who gave.

Mrs. Lou Brown Jewell
United Way of Greater Atlanta
Peter Fred Waller Estate
John & Rosemary Brown Family Foundation
The Scott Hudgens Family Foundation, Inc.
Mary Allen Lindsey Branan Foundation
The Ma-Ran Foundation
Westerstroms Charitable Trust
AEC Trust
Atlanta Foundation
Edward R Fisher Charitable Organization
Ida Alice Ryan Charitable Trust
John and Mary Franklin Foundation, Inc.
LeadingAge
The Martha and Wilton Looney Foundation, Inc.
William J. Ching Family Foundation Fund
Starr Moore and Associates
United Way Metro
United Way
Mary Ryan & Henry G. Kuhrt Foundation
Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Ackerman
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Gomez
Mr. Jon R. Harris, Jr.
Mrs. Mirtie Rockswold
The Edward Colston Foundation, Inc.
The Ellis Foundation
Dr. Charlotte Weaver RN Ph.D.
Besse Johnson & George Blanton Allen Memorial Foundation
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Ms. Catherine Fike
Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, Inc.
Greater Atlanta HPNA
Mrs. Lorraine Dalbo
Thomas H. Pitts Trust
Koch Family Fund
Nicole Ashe
Georgia Power Company Club of Hearts, Inc.
Barham-Calhoun Memorial Trust

John Pensec
Fulton County School Employees' Charitable Fund, Inc.
The Henagan Foundation
Elias Angell
Candace and Jeff Bell
Catholic Foundation of North Georgia, Inc.
Cathy Zappa
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
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Theresa M. Foster
Margaret Wheeler
Alfred G. Adams Jr
Veronique Spruill
Jamie Eubanks
Church of the Epiphany
Ann Mathis



Join Us

In Georgia, there is a critical need for Visiting Nurse Health System be here for another 75 years as the safety-net providing care for those in our community in need. Help us achieve health equity for all Georgians. Donate today at www.vnhs.org/donate.



VISITING NURSE
HEALTH SYSTEM

Visiting Nurse Health System

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