

ROCKINGHAM VNA & HOSPICE

Rockingham VNA & Hospice would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you for your continued support of our organization. We continue to operate in a regulatory and reimbursement environment that challenges our ability to meet the increasing need for Home Care and Hospice services throughout the communities that we serve. We remain committed, despite the challenges outlined below, to providing the services needed by your residents to remain in their homes.

- There is significant Medicare reimbursement changes scheduled to be implemented on January 1, 2008. These changes have not been finalized, but many industry analysts believe that these changes will have a negative impact on reimbursement for Home Care services.
- A nationwide shortage of nurses and therapists has generated a significant challenge for home care agencies to recruit the professionals needed to serve our expanding patient population in a cost effective manner.

RVNA & Hospice management has responded to these challenges by making many operational changes that have streamlined operations and lowered costs without affecting the quality of our patient care services. We are committed to continuing to review all aspects of our operations on an ongoing basis to insure that we optimize the use of our limited resources.

Rockingham VNA & Hospice is sensitive to the increasing financial challenges experienced by the towns we serve and again, have adopted a policy of level funding requests for Fiscal Year 2008. As in the past seventeen years, we respectfully request an allocation of \$5,678 from the Town of Newton. We can be reached at 1-800-540-2981. Thank you for your consideration.

SERVICES PROVIDED

The following services were provided to 16 residents for July 1 through September 30, 2007:

• Skilled Visits	119
• Physical Therapy Visits	44
• Occupational Therapy Visits	20
• Speech Therapist Visits	1
• Medical Social Workers	2
• Home Health Aide visits	<u>48</u>
Total Clinical Visits	234

Health Promotion Clinic Visits:

• Foot Clinic Visits	22
• Blood Pressure Clinic Visits	<u>3</u>
Total Health Promotion Visits	25

Rockingham VNA & Hospice thanks Newton residents for their continued support and the privilege to serve your community.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard DiLando
Director of Finance

THE SAD CAFÉ

The mission of The Sad Café is to maintain a safe, clean, substance free, family friendly environment. We provide, promote and support positive life choices for youth and families through innovative programming.

The specific purposes for the funds requested are to supplement current staff salaries, provide supplies and cover overhead costs, which have risen dramatically over the last two years, to continue to provide quality after school, summer, weekend and evening programming, as well as to pursue collaborative projects to benefit the towns of the Sanborn and Timberlane Regional School Districts.

Services provided by The Sad Café are considered Prevention, Treatment or Recovery Services by State, Federal and County funding agencies. The services provided by The Sad Café ensure that there is a safe place where teens can gather in Rockingham County where they will be supervised in a safe and substance free environment.

The Sad Café also provides many community services, such as family and parenting support workshops and community based initiatives such as the Sanborn/Timberlane Safe and Drug Free Community Coalition. The Coalition, with The Sad Café as fiscal agent, was successful in securing state funds to provide for an intensive home based therapeutic program contract with a private Licensed Alcohol and Drug Abuse Counselor (LADC) to the Sanborn and Timberlane School Districts in 2007/2008 and secured funds to provide a Family Resource Center to provide prevention services to area families. Also most all the funds from this award, to begin October 2007, will go to the hiring of the LADC with only \$3,600 (the cost of one month's rent) going to the Café for support.

The Sad Café currently provides/oversees the Step Up series of programs which provides the Making Change Program, a facilitated group for area youth considering recovery/new choices, teen AA meeting at the Café and a parent peer support group for families with substance abusing teens which is currently the largest and most active in the state (meetings occur in Atkinson). The Sad Café also raises funds to augment school prevention activities, providing youth leadership training and internship services.

The Sad Café solicited and received funds from the United Way to support implementation of the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) in the Sanborn School District for the first time in its' history, again acting as a pass through agency only and receiving no financial benefit. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Agency (federal SAMHSA) just announced the Coalition, with the Café as fiscal agent has been one of the 90 national grantees (from over 300 applicants) for a Drug Free Communities 5 year renewable grant which will enable the Coalition to hire a full-time coordinator to coordinate prevention services and programs for the two districts.

Without the initiative of the Sad Café and the services of the executive director who wrote the extremely competitive and challenging proposal the towns of the Timberlane district would not be a recipient of this important and extremely beneficial award. Once again, The Sad Café will receive very little monetary gain from this award as it is to benefit the community at large. These are a few of the examples of the role The Sad Café plays in the greater community in its' strong commitment to the youth and its' mission to serve them.

Newton teens represent the 4th largest number of NH youth attendees to our evening music events. We tracked 291 Newton teens last year to the evening music events and 28 attendees over 21. After school/summer program averages 57 kid hours (counts number of hours a teen from the town was signed in each month) per month for students from Newton in 2006/2007. An average of 60 Middle school students from Newton attended 3 evenings of Project Getting to Know You at the Sad Café.

Additionally, we attend Plaistow Old Home Days and Kingston Days and at least two large resource fair events annually at each regional high school, providing alcohol/substance treatment and prevention information and resources to hundreds of residents. We anticipate 300 Newton clients for next year.

Continued community financial and technical support will be necessary to allow The Sad Café to provide the sustainable innovative prevention based programming that is so important to maintaining and enhancing the quality of life in our towns. The Sad Café would like to thank the Newton residents for your continued support and the privilege to serve your community. We can be reached at (603) 382-8893.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Gerrish
Vice Chairman