

Service Commission Meeting

04/21/2010 7:30 PM

Attendance:

Paul Burwinkel
Rich Dimenna
Bob McCrary
Walter Moore
Charles Wolfe

- Opened with the gratitude prayer.
- Reviewed, corrected and approved the minutes from the 11/17/2009 meeting.
- Summarized the results of our Parish Gratitude proposal which was sent to the Pastoral Council in February:
 - Habitat for Humanity House – Approved \$30K which will be available around July for the home. We also plan to approach other neighboring churches to see if they are interested in a joint project. Service Commission needs to proceed now so that we are ready to start this summer
 - Wounded Warrior Project - \$5K donation – sent to the Parish Tithe Committee for further consideration because this was a donation only and not a project.
 - Uptown VA Community Living Center – Pastoral Council has asked us to continue to pursue this and to come back to the council with more information.
- Rich Dimenna has told HFH that we want to build a house. The July time frame works well with their schedule for the project kickoff. The parish will have volunteer opportunities for volunteers to build, to provide lunches and possibly for someone to act as general contractor. The home will most likely be in Barton Village as HFH has several lots there and is building a community in that area. The final selection of a lot is the privilege of the new homeowner. The selection is made from those lots Habitat currently has available for construction. St Mary's needs to approach the other churches – Fr. Jerry had told us that he wanted to make the 1st contact. Rich agreed to meet with Fr. Jerry to get the contact with the other churches started and to schedule an organizational meeting where St. Mary parishioners can come get information and begin to volunteer for some of the key positions.
- Walter brought a brochure from the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center (attached). He had talked to Benita Williams. Walter and Charlie agreed to make contact with some of the groups listed as volunteers in the brochure (Aiken K of C & Elks) to see what their experiences have been. Walter and Charlie will also meet with the VA Center to tour some of the Community Living Centers.

Next meeting on Wednesday 05/19/10 at 7:30 PM in the Senior Center.

CHARLIE NORWOOD VA MEDICAL CENTER

Voluntary Service

Some new and exciting things are happening at the Charlie Norwood VA Medical Center. The Voluntary Service Office has heard the voices of our service organizations, veterans and staff requesting changes. Please join us as we begin NEW programs that will offer new opportunities. The Voluntary Service Office goal is to provide each unit with sponsors who are willing to work together to address the needs of our residents. Without Supporters such as yourself, these new programs will not materialize.

As requested by you the organizations, attached is an introduction of each unit that is in need of sponsors. The goal is to have sponsors for each unit. This will allow residents and sponsors the opportunity to know each other on a more personal level through visitations and special activities.

Organizations will also work closely with staff to address issues that affect the units they are sponsoring.

Please join us as we begin a new journey here as we serve American Heroes.

For more information or to select your unit(s), please contact Benita Williams, at (706) 731-7208.

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Respite Program

Community Living Center

1-C

PATRIOTS POINTE

About the veterans:

A Long Term Care Unit with a current census of 28 patients. Presently we serve a diverse and complex level of resident's diagnoses range from dementia to schizophrenia. Their primary diagnoses are usually wandering with occasional inappropriate behavior. With a primary diagnosis of dementia our residents are not always able to tell us what they want, more personal time we serve however with the assistance of family members, long periods of birthday parties, and group entertainment. Our residents, we are able to predict behavior, and address their needs in a safe, short and time manner. Like most of us, the residents have their own set of leisure interest, but desire more personal time with families, lunch-meals with staff, outings, birthday parties, and group entertainment.

What the veterans would enjoy:

- In the past, this unit has had family luncheons such as Christmas, Father's Day and a Beach Blast.
- Resident's patio project is underway. Assistance with improving the appearance to a home-like patio environment.
- During the Holidays (Veterans Day/Memorial Day and others) our veterans are engaged and included in many dinners and activities held on our community living centers. We would like to have our resident's dressed similar (the same colored shirts, and slacks, with bow ties), and these clothing would also be worn at during those extra activities.

Wish List

Mats for ground (rubber)
Artist to paint back with wall
Canopy
Swinging Law Chairs
Lights (string lights)
Benches
Flower pots
Flowers
Cigarettes cans



ALA 192
ALA 192 Family
VFW LA 3200
AL 505
ALA 505
ALA 71

Community Living Center

1-D

VICTORY POINTE

About the veterans:

a Long-Term Care unit with a census of 30 veterans. The patients' diagnoses are mainly dementia and diabetes. Victory Pointe has seven wheelchair veterans, six rolling walker veterans and two cane walkers. The remainder of our veterans are ambulatory. Our veterans enjoy outings and live music and relaxation. This helps with their moods and peaceful well-being.

Wish List

Juke Box

Popcorn Machine

Personal Care Items

Special activities

What the veterans would enjoy:

We would like a bathroom turned into a spa. With a towel and blanket warmer to wrap around each after a shower.

More on unit bingo's.

Volunteers to assist with nature walks or outside time.

Gardening—both in-doors and out doors.

Make a wish for our veterans

To support "This is Your Life" once a month to profile a veterans for a specific month .



DAV 10

DAVA 10

DAV 18

DAVA 18

ALA 71

**Community Living Center
2-B**

HEROES POINT

About the veterans:

A Long-Term Care and Hospice Unit with a current census of 31 veteran-patients (currently 5 hospice beds). The diagnoses range from dementia to schizophrenia to stroke with a large majority having diabetes and some with subsequent amputations. A majority of the patients has been admitted with many physical disabilities, and they are in need of a long term rehabilitation program. Hospice patients are veterans who have terminal illnesses and have been given a six month or less life expectancy.

Wish List

Movie Tickets

Pizza Gift certificates

Dinner for Hospice patient and family

Wheelchair bike

Bowling passes

Orientation clocks for patient's room

CD Players for each patient's room

What the veterans would enjoy:

- Family luncheons around Father's Day and Christmas
- Formal Birthday parties each month with cake and ice-cream
- Last wishes/request provided for the Hospice veterans
- Non-perishable foods for Hospice families who spend hours sitting around the clock.
- Special Talents/hobbies shared by the sponsor with the veterans periodically.
- Seasonal parties—Super Bowl, Valentines, St. Patrick's Day, Easter,



***Military Order of the Purple Heart ,
425***

***Military Order of the Purple Heart
Ladies Auxiliary 425
Knights of Columbus, Aiken Chapter***

Community Living Center

3-C

INDEPENDENCE POINTE

About the veterans:

Currently has a census of 35 veteran-patients. The diagnoses range from last stages of Alzheimer's, schizophrenia, and stroke. Some receive dialysis and some have amputations. The majority of veteran-patients have diabetes. Due to there diagnosis and limitation in taking care of their own activities of daily living they are considered long term care patients. The goal is to make their rooms and environment home like. In that, for some, this is the place where they will live for the rest of their lives.

Wish List

DVD/VCR/ room

Movie Tickets

Columbia Zoo tickets

Bowling Passes

Pizza gift certificates

Chinese Gift certificates

hygiene products

What the veterans would enjoy:

- Murals in patients room to give it a more home like environment
- Make Over of day room – the room is currently Pink (guys don't seem to appreciate a pink dayroom – which if it were our home would be "a pink living room")
- New curtains in the dayroom
- Large orientation clocks for each individual room – has the day, date and time – larger than the 9 inch that are located throughout the hospital
- Monthly birthday parties – sugar and sugar free (cake and or ice cream)
- Seasonal parties i.e. Super Bowl parties, Valentines, St. Patrick's, Easters, Memorial Day—and on occasion to invite family members to join
- Seasonal decorations for windows and wreaths for the doors.
- Someone to occasionally provide live music, piano, guitar, flute. etc.



**BPO Elks
VFW LA Dept of Georgia
MIA Elim Baptist Church
Forester**