

Fargo VA Healthcare System: Existing and New Programs to Serve Veterans

Trisha Chadduck, MSW, LICSW

Hospice and Palliative Care
Program Coordinator

Loni Larson, MSW, LICSW

Medical Foster Home
Program Coordinator

Glenda Trochmann, MSW, LICSW

Women Veterans Program Manager &
Mental Health Social Work Supervisor





Objectives

- Describe the differences between hospice and palliative care and the benefits connected with them
- Explain unique programs available for enrolled Veterans of different eras
- Review new programs and services
- Provide an opportunity for discussion and specific questions



What is Palliative Care?

- Medical care provided by an interdisciplinary team focusing on relief of suffering and support for the best possible quality of life for Pts. facing serious life threatening illness and their families.

National Consensus Project

- To palliate: to come along side, to comfort

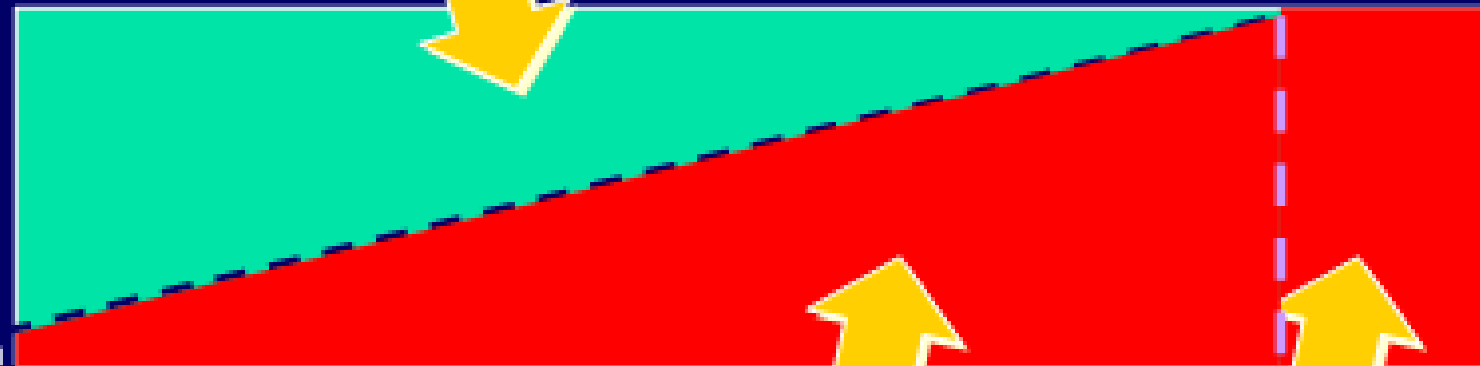
Life Prolonging Therapy

Presentation

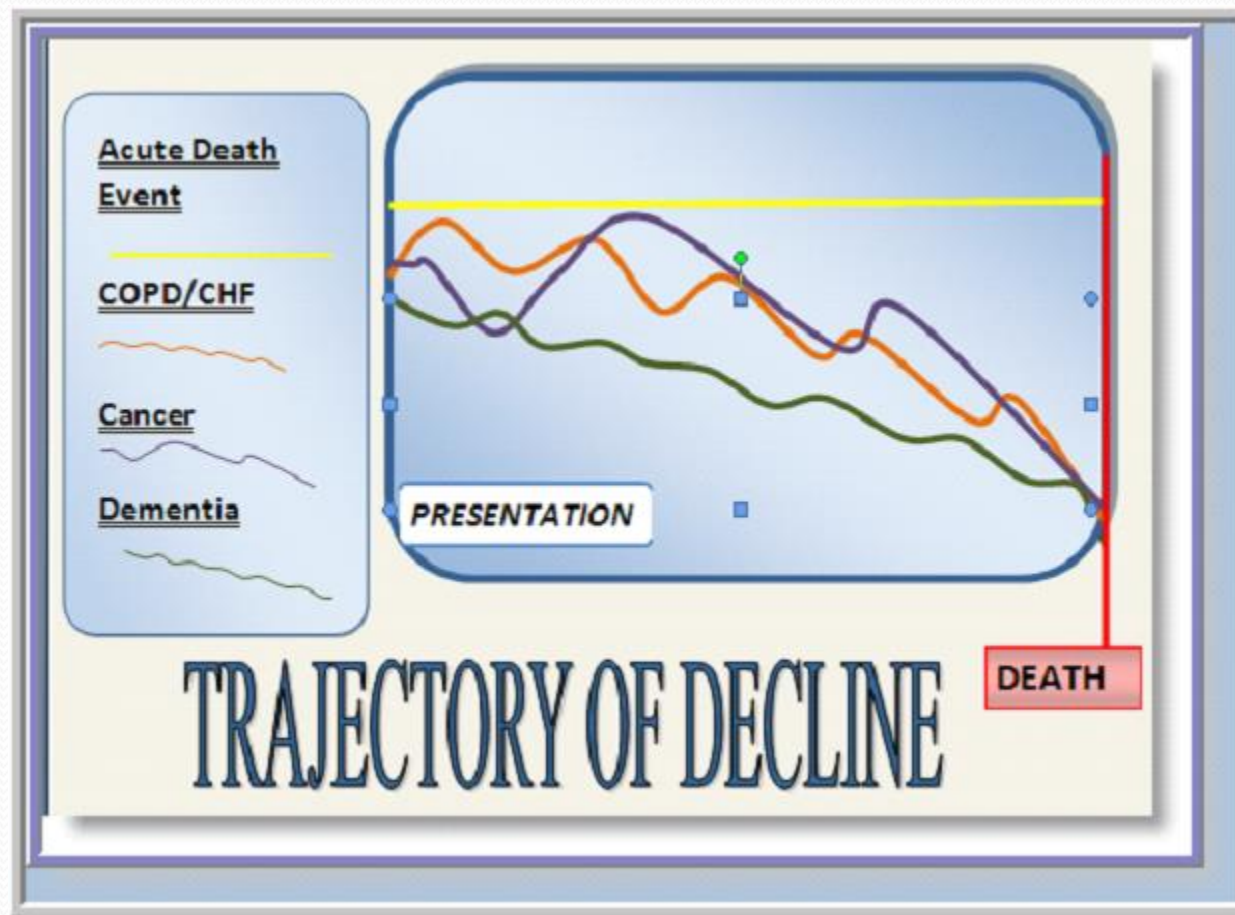
Palliative Care

Hospice

Death



Disease Trajectory





Hospice

vs.

Palliative care

- “ 6 mo. Or less life expectancy as determined by 2 MD's
- “ VA will pay 100% for home hospice care with a contracted agency
- “ No co-pay for service
- “ VA will pay contract nursing home if on hospice

- “ No limitation of life expectancy
- “ Co-pays apply
- “ Will not pay for nursing home if on palliative care



Hospice Resources

- Community Hospice Care
- Hospice Contract Nursing Home
- Bereavement Services



Community Hospice

- All enrolled Veterans are eligible for VA paid community hospice care.
- Veterans may chose to use Medicare or other insurance to cover hospice care with no effect on their VA benefits.
- Payment mirrors Medicare



Hospice Contract Nursing Home

- Veteran **MUST** be enrolled in VA system
- Veteran/family must desire this level of care
- Must be followed by community hospice care
- Must be deemed Hospice eligible by **VA** provider
- Fargo VA Community Living Center (CLC) is **first** site of choice for inpatient hospice.
- Must be placed in Nursing Home under contract with the VA



Hospice Contract Nursing Home Placement

- Currently the VA has Hospice CNH beds in:
 - Jamestown (Ave Maria, Eventide Hi-Acres)
 - Garrison (Benedictine Living Center)
 - Larimore (Good Samaritan Center)
 - Minot (Manor Care Health Services)
 - Mayville (Luther Memorial Home)
 - Fargo (Rosewood on Broadway, Villa Maria Healthcare, Bethany)
 - Valley City (Sheyenne Care Center)
 - LaMoure (St. Rose Care Center)
 - Dickinson (St. Luke's Home)
 - Detroit Lakes (Emmanuel Nursing Home, St. Mary's Nursing Center)
 - Battle Lake (Good Samaritan Center)
 - Bemidji (Nielsen Place)
 - Twin Valley (Twin Valley Living Center)
 - Crookston (Villa St. Vincent)

** Cannot use contracted nursing home in Glen Ullin, Stanley or Hallock**



Bereavement Services

- Phone call/bereavement assessment
- Support group and resource referral
- Assistance with death benefits information
- Supportive mailings for 1st year
- Bi-annual Memorial Service



Death Benefits

- **Most** Veterans entitled to
 - Burial Flag – Military Honors
 - Headstone and Markers
 - Burial in state or national cemetery
- **Some** Veterans entitled to burial allowances
 - Funeral, plot and transporting of body
- Survivor benefits



Contact Information

- Hospice and Palliative Care Clinic
800-410-9723 ext 9-2994
- Trisha Chadduck, LCSW, MSW
Hospice and Palliative Care Program Coordinator -
800-410-9723 ext 9-2726



Unique VA Programs and Other Non-VA Veteran Resources



Extended Care Programs

- Community Living Center (CLC)
- Respite Care
- Contracted Home Health Services
- Adult Day Health Care
- Contract Nursing Home Care



Community Living Center (CLC)

- Interdisciplinary medical and nursing care, basic and skilled, as well as care for veterans with chronic stable conditions, those requiring rehabilitation or short term specialty services, respite care, or those who need comfort and care at the end of life.
- Goal to restore the resident to maximum function.



Respite Care

- Care in our CLC, 30 days per year
- Can also occur in the community
- Goal to provide relief from the physical and emotional burdens associated for caring for veterans at home
- CLC Unit Manager
 - 800-410-9723 ext. 9-3597



Home Care

- **Skilled Home Care** is contracted with agencies.
- Includes consults for OT/PT/Speech & Social Services
- Usual benefit starts with 12 visits a year
- Have to be enrolled in Primary Care with the VA.
- Respite in the home through home health agency
- May have Co-pays, (probably \$15.00 each visit)
- Check with Business Office, ext 9-3400



Adult Day Health Care (ADHC)

- Therapeutic outpatient day programming based on the medical model in a group setting for veterans at risk for nursing home care.
- VA has Contracts with facilities in MN and ND to provide these services.
- Veterans allowed so many hours or units per month.



Contract Nursing Home Care (CNHC)

- Providing care in a community skilled nursing home facility under contract with the VA. Eligible veterans, screened to require nursing home care may utilize this benefit.
- **Eligible veterans are needing nursing home for service connected disability or are service connected 70% or higher. Or 60% service connected and Permanent and Total disabled (P&T) also called Unemployability- determined through VBA

Contract Nursing Home Placement

- Veterans who are 70% or more SC, need NH placement for an SC condition, or are deemed unemployable by a VA provider are eligible for VA CNH placement.
- Currently the VA has CNH beds in:
 - Jamestown (Ave Maria, Eventide Hi-Acres)
 - Garrison (Benedictine Living Center)
 - Larimore (Good Samaritan Center)
 - Minot (Manor Care Health Services)
 - Mayville (Luther Memorial Home)
 - ***Glen Ullin (Marian Manor Health Care)***
 - ***Stanley (Mountrail Bethel Home)***
 - Fargo (Rosewood on Broadway, Villa Maria Healthcare, Bethany)
 - Valley City (Sheyenne Care Center)
 - LaMoure (St. Rose Care Center)
 - Dickinson (St. Luke's Home)
 - Detroit Lakes (Emmanuel Nursing Home, Oak Crossing)
 - Battle Lake (Good Samaritan Center)
 - ***Hallock (Kittson Memorial Healthcare)***
 - Bemidji (Nielsen Place)
 - Twin Valley (Twin Valley Living Center)
 - Crookston (Villa St. Vincent)

****Those facilities that are bold are not available for hospice contract placement****



Home Based Primary Care Program (HBPC)

- Provides comprehensive, interdisciplinary, primary care in the home of veteran with complex medical and social conditions.
- Primary focus of HBPC is longitudinal care for complex chronic disabling disease.
- Interdisciplinary care team involved in care.
- Veterans must be enrolled in VA healthcare system
- Must live within a 50 miles radius of the Fargo VAMC.
- COMING SOON – HBPC will be adding a team to the Bismarck region which will cover a 50 mile radius of the Bismarck CBOC



Other Specialty Programs

- Caregiver Support Program
- OEF/OIF services
- Mental Health Services



Caregiver Support Program

- VA offers a wide range of services for Caregivers of eligible Veterans of all eras (e.g. support groups, linking to resources, education about caregiving, etc).
- Additional services, including a monthly stipend, are available for eligible Veterans who were seriously injured in the line of duty on or after September 11, 2001.



OEF/OIF program

- Combat vet clinic
 - Social work assessment, nursing, physician exam
- Case management
- Groups
- Outreach



Mental Health Services

- Social Work
 - Therapy (individual & group)
 - Case management
- Psychology
 - Therapy (individual & group)
- Psychiatry
 - Psychotropic med management
- Nursing
 - Case management
- Addiction Counselors
 - Substance Abuse Treatment Program



Mental Health Programs

- Military Sexual Trauma
- Suicide Prevention Program
- PTSD programming (groups & individual)
- Numerous evidence based therapies (e.g. CPT, PE, ACT, CBT)
- Homeless Program, including HUD-VASH
- Inpatient psychiatric unit (10 beds)
- Mental health walk-in clinic
- Variety of group offerings (e.g. anger management, social skills, DBT, pain management)



Military Sexual Trauma (MST)

- MST refers to sexual harassment and sexual assault that occurs in military settings.
- MST services include counseling (individual and group), primary care
- Every veteran is screened for MST
- No fees for services related to MST



Healthcare for Homeless Veterans

- Description of Services: Shelter, clothing, food, medical care, psychiatric services, substance abuse treatment, transitional rehabilitative housing, and permanent housing programs.
- Programs: Shelter Outreach, Grant/Per Diem Rehabilitative Housing, Veterans Justice Outreach, and HUD-VASH permanent housing programs.
- No fees



Veterans Justice Outreach (VJO)

- Works with local law enforcement and courts to provide eligible veterans with the treatment they need
- Veterans may be appropriately diverted from arrest into mental health or substance abuse treatment



HUD-VASH Housing Program

- Assists homeless veterans and their families in finding permanent housing
- Section 8 Housing voucher decreases out-of-pocket expenses for the veteran
- Mandatory Case Management
- Offered in Fargo and Grand Forks



Women Veterans Program



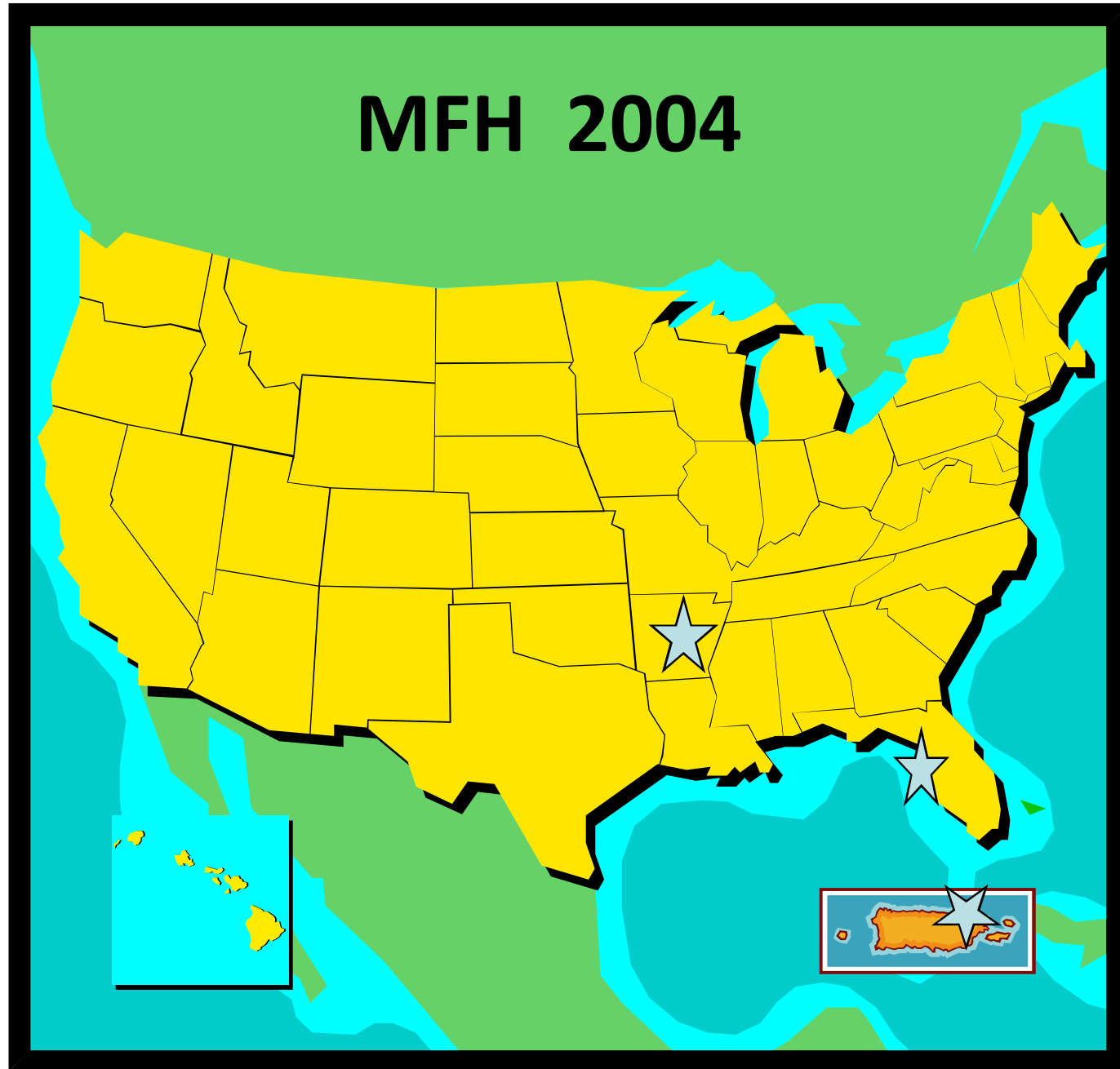
New Programming

- Home Based Primary Care at the Bismarck CBOC
- Medical Foster Home

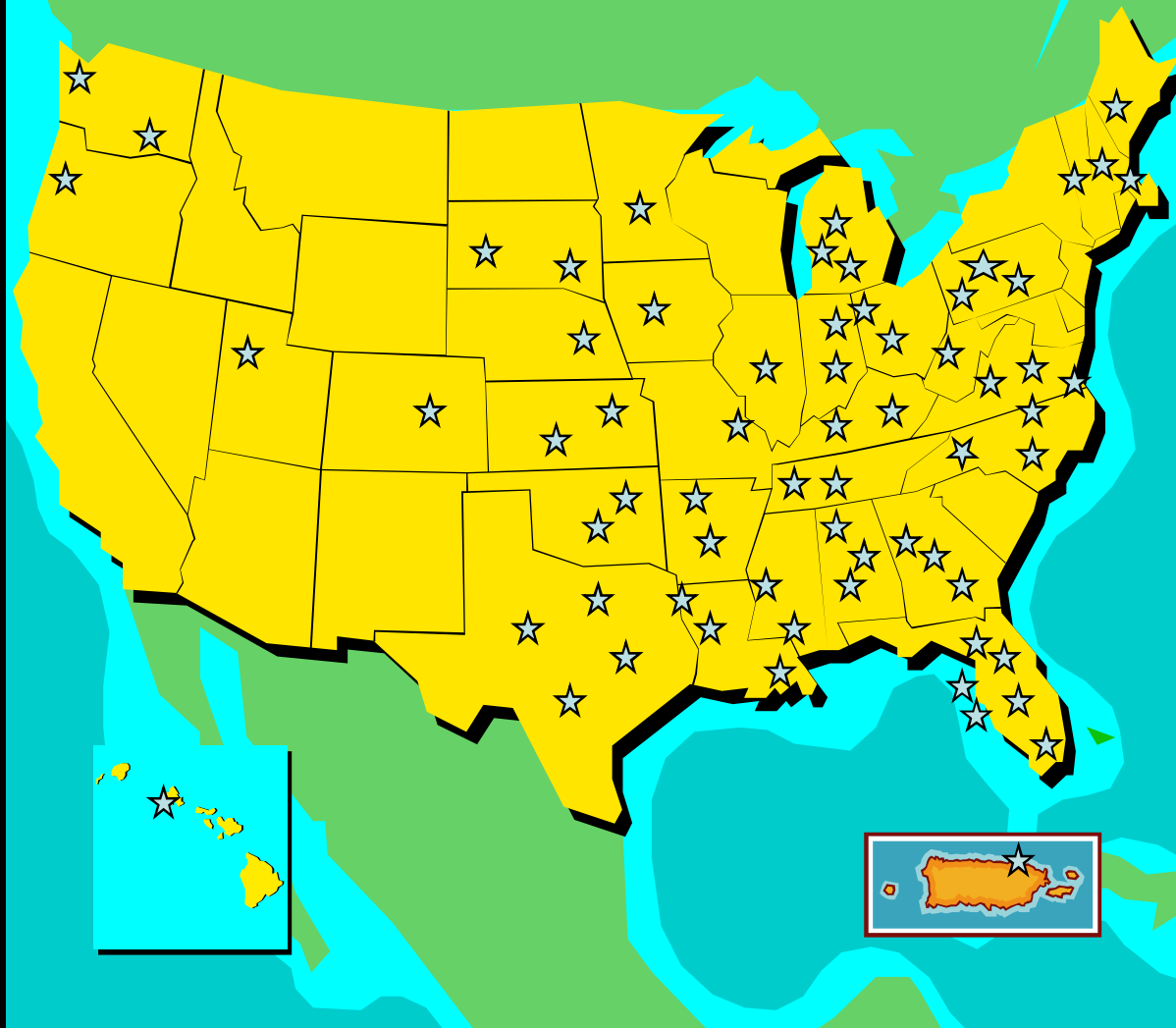
MEDICAL FOSTER HOME



MFH 2004



MFH 2010



MFH 2012





National MFH Initiative by the numbers as of 12/31/2012

- 1,722 - # MFH Veterans served
- 524 - # of Medical Foster Homes
- 555 - # of current MFH Veterans
- 9 - # OEF/OIF Veterans to date
- 145 - # of current P1a Veterans in MFH (28%)

WHAT IS A MEDICAL FOSTER HOME?





MEDICAL FOSTER HOME

- **A Medical Foster Home (MFH) is an adult foster home combined with VA interdisciplinary home care team such as VA HBPC (Home-Based Primary Care) to provide non-institutional long term care for Veterans who are unable to live independently and prefer a family setting.**



VA Medical Foster Home Program

- Merges adult foster home with VA Home-Based Primary Care (HBPC) program.
- Person in community takes dependent Veteran into their private home, as MFH caregiver
- MFH caregiver provides daily personal assistance and supervision for up to three Veterans
- VA HBPC provides comprehensive medical care and management; caregiver education
- VA MFH Coordinator provides oversight
- Veteran pays for MFH



Eligibility

- “ Veteran must be enrolled and receiving care from a VA, or has received care within the preceding 12 months
- “ Veteran meets nursing home level of care but prefers a non-institutional setting
- “ Have care needs that can be met by MFH and HBPC
- “ Unable to safely live independently due to functional, cognitive or psychosocial impairment

- The Veteran's family/support system is not able to provide supervision or personal assistance
- Agrees to MFH placement with HBPC as primary care provider
- MFH's will be within 50 mile radius of Fargo



MFH Goals

- **Veteran**

- Choice
- Home setting
- Personalized Care
- Affordable
- Primary Care in the Home
- Increased Satisfaction

- **VA**

- “ Non-institutional long term care option
- “ Utilizes veteran benefits
- “ Partner with Community
- “ Ensures quality care
- “ Cost effective









How to refer a Veteran to MHF:

Call Loni Larson,
MFH Program Coordinator
701-232-3241, ext 4394



Other Veteran Resources

- Vet Centers
- MN and ND Veterans Home
- County Veteran Service Officers
- Veteran Service Organizations (e.g. DAV, DVA, VFW)
- ND National Guard Outreach
- Job Service North Dakota Veterans Employment Team

Questions ?



Thank you!