

Community Nursing Home

The Community Living Center (CLC) is designed to provide a safe, homelike environment for veterans who have a wide variety of medical, nursing and rehab needs.

The following services are offered in the Community Living Center:

- **CIIRP Unit for acute rehabilitation**
 - *Length of stay: 2-4 weeks*
- **GEMU (Geriatric Evaluation Management Unit)**
 - *Patient must be age 65 or older*
 - *Length of stay: 30 days*
- **Nursing Home (Maintenance) level of therapy**
 - *Length of stay: 30-90 days*
- **Long Term IV Antibiotic therapy**
 - *PICC, Hickmann Catheter, Portacath is in place.*
- **Radiation Therapy**
 - *Treatment plan is initiated by Radiation/Oncology.*
- **Respite Care**
 - *Allows caregiver to take time off.*
 - *Maximum respite is 30 days/year.*
 - *Inpatient social work involvement required.*
- **Supportive Care Unit (SCU)**
 - *Provides comfort care to patients with terminal diagnosis.*
- **Permanent placement**
 - *Patient requires long term nursing home care and meets veteran eligibility for placement in a VA Community Living Center.*
 - *Inpatient social work involvement required*

Hospice & Palliative Care

Palliative Care is broad term that includes hospice care as well as other care that emphasizes symptom management in persons with life-limiting disease but is not restricted to persons near the end of life. Hospice care is one mode of palliative care that generally signifies the presence of a terminal condition, a life expectancy deemed to be less than six months, and the decision to not pursue aggressive measures with curative intent. Services provided include:

- A. Provision of clinical guidance in the management of pain and other physical symptoms related to advanced disease to maximize comfort.
- B. Provision of emotional and spiritual counseling for patient and family regarding their response to diagnosis and prognosis.
- C. Counseling for patient, family, and staff regarding end-of-life planning (advance directives).
- D. Guidance to patient, family, and staff regarding discharge and/or placement issues.
- E. Provision of bereavement care as needed by family.
- F. Provision of psychological/emotional support for staff caring for terminally ill patients.
- G. On-going education of medical center staff and patients about end-of-life care.
- H. Periodic monitoring of patient and staff about end-of-life issues for purposes of Improvement of Organizational Performance.

CLC Cultural Transformation

- A small group of health care providers and administrators who were concerned by the perceived devaluation of nursing home veterans and those who care for them, met formally and informally to create a national movement within the Veterans Health Administration. This movement aims to engage staff and veterans across the country in transforming the culture of long term care to a resident centered model

providing compassionate and comprehensive care to veterans in a homelike environment. The cultural transformation movement is also expected to ensure increased satisfaction for both NH residents and staff.

CLC Recreation Therapy Programs

- Recreation Therapy will be an integral part of Extended Care's therapeutic and rehabilitation programs. Comprehensive Recreation Therapy programs will be provided for residents in the Community Living Center (CLC). Activities provided may be diversional, therapeutic or educational in nature and will reflect the assessed needs and strengths of the residents. Large and small groups, as well as individual activities will be developed to utilize Cognitive, Social, Sensory, Creative, Spiritual and Physical domains to enhance residents' feelings of well-being towards their highest level of participation and independent functioning. Derivation of multiple benefits will be obtained during therapist's interventions using the broad spectrum of domains and modalities.

Home Base Primary Care (HBPC)

The HBPC Program is an interdisciplinary program established to provide veterans with continuum of care service within the veteran's home, in conjunction with family, community support and ambulatory care service. The Hospital Based Primary Care of the JJP Bronx VA provides longitudinal care to veterans with chronic diseases and spinal cord injury with related conditions in the home setting.

Caregiver Support Program (CG)

Family Caregivers provide crucial support in caring for our Nation's Veterans by allowing them to stay in the homes and communities they defended, surrounded by the loved ones they fought for. Caregivers in a home environment can enhance the health and well-being of Veterans under VA care. Additional VA services are now available to those Family Caregivers who share VA's daily charge to serve those "who have borne the battle." VA will accept applications from seriously injured post 9-11 Veterans and their Family Caregivers for the new Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers, starting May 9th, 2011. For those eligible to enroll in the program, training will begin in early June 2011. Many Veterans and caregivers, members of congress, Veteran Service Organizations and community partners helped make this legislation possible. We at VA appreciate all the support for the Family Caregiver as the regulation that will define this program is implemented.



<http://www.caregiver.va.gov/>