



HMN receives grants from the PeaceHealth and Chuckanut Healthcare Foundation to offer Transitional Care Services

- Establish seven congregational (community) centers in Whatcom County with FCNs and qualified HMs who offer hospital to home transitional care services*
- Centers will provide transitional services by a FCN or qualified HM upon discharge from the hospital or LTC facility.

**Qualified HMN nurses, congregational health ministers and community health advocates ease the transition to home from hospital (or care facility) through recognition of medical "red flags," home lifestyle adjustments, setting up medication regimens, and referrals to supporting agencies. The goals -- reduce hospital or care center readmissions in the first 30 days.*

The HMN Transitional Services Implementation Team: Norma Maarhuis and LeAna Osterman (Sonlight CRC, Lynden), Jeanne Brotherton and Brenda Nicholson (First Congregational, Bellingham), Anita Busby, Pam Colyar (Hope Lutheran, Lynden), Carole Kornelis and Sylvia Burks (1st Reformed, Lynden), and Carol Ham (in the fall).

1. Incorporate Transitional Care in the Foundations for Faith Community Nursing and Health Ministry curriculum offered March 2 – April 29. Continue recruitment of nurses, health ministers and facilities.
2. Recruit individuals from receptive organizations and congregations -- First Congregational UCC, Sonlight Community Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Bellingham At Home (Health Advocate), Shuksan Nursing and Rehab Care Center and Mt. Baker Care Center
3. Participating FCNs and Health Advocates will meet with the CHCC Care Transitions Team and the HMN Community Outreach Coordinator to discuss and report experience. A summary will be published in the HMN 2018 Annual Report.

Assessing the project's effectiveness: Monthly activity reports conceived and developed by FCNs will assess the frequency and value of services. A successful implementation will see an increase in Transitional Care Services.