Dear Friends,

If this issue of VNA Community can be said to have a theme, it is this: our commitment to providing quality health care to our patients. From Mrs. Kagan, the beloved lady who kept her “motherhood” certificate for 71 years, to our board members, we focus on achieving performance excellence, to an article explaining state and federal quality measurements, the pursuit of quality care is central to all at the VNA.

I’m very proud of our achievements and the quality initiatives we have undertaken, but I know we can always do better. That’s why VNA is continuously looking for ways to improve. The ISO recognition I mentioned at our last quarterly meeting is an example of a quality initiative that required us to be involved in a collaborative, cross-departmental, and interdisciplinary approach to improving performance.”

After three years as a well-respected member of VNA Home Health’s Board of Directors, Anthony Durante was elected Board President in May. It’s a natural fit for Durante, who has spent the last 20 years as Chief Financial Officer as well as one of the owners of Capital Living and Rehabilitation Centers in Schenectady. An up-to-date position at Capital Living gives him a unique perspective on the integral partnership between rehabilitation facilities and home health agencies like VNA Home Health.

The primary challenges he faces as CFO, Durante says, are navigating the constantly changing healthcare landscape and dealing with shrinking Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, while ensuring the patients are receiving the best care possible. He recognizes that many of those challenges are also relevant to his role as President of the Board.

The Board’s primary function, as Durante sees it, is to support the agency and its mission while making good business decisions. While they have a fiduciary responsibility to ensure that the VNA follows legal and ethical standards, they also play a role in ensuring that the agency meets federal and state standards concerning quality and performance improvement. It can be a difficult balancing act, but I’m very proud of our achievements and the quality initiatives we have undertaken, but I know we can always do better. That’s why VNA is continuously looking for ways to improve. The ISO recognition I mentioned at our last quarterly meeting is an example of a quality initiative that required us to be involved in a collaborative, cross-departmental, and interdisciplinary approach to improving performance. There is no such thing as “quality department” – providing outstanding quality is everyone’s job, from office staff to clinical staff. I have always held enormous respect for Florence Nightingale. In addition to being a natural fit for Durante, who has served as CFO for several years, working as a CPA and auditor, Durante said, are navigating the constantly changing healthcare landscape, and dealing with shrinking Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement, while ensuring the patients are receiving the best care possible. He recognizes that many of those challenges are also relevant to his role as President of the Board.

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