



PROMISE CENTER NEWS

June 2012



A COLLABORATION BETWEEN VA HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE (HPC) AND THE CENTER FOR HEALTH EQUITY RESEARCH AND PROMOTION (CHERP)

Go to <http://www.cherp.research.va.gov/PROMISE.asp> for:

- * Success stories from the PROMISE team
- * Archived PROMISE Center newsletters
- * Meet the PROMISE staff
- * Go to the FAQ section of the PROMISE website

New Resource for No Veteran Dies Alone Volunteers

A VA-wide team of hospice and palliative care employees has developed new resources, including a comprehensive tool kit, orientation guide, and other educational materials, for hospice volunteers who contribute their time to the “No Veteran Dies Alone” program. These resources are designed to train and support volunteers who provide presence, companionship and reassurance at the bedside when family and friends are unable to be with a Veteran at end of life. In addition, this provides a set of national standards for volunteers to continuously raise our level of practice across the country. [Read full story and list of VA-wide team here.](#)

Palliative Care Integration in Intensive Care (PC-ICU)

PC-ICU Networking Live Meetings support staff efforts to integrate palliative care in the ICU. The informal sessions will focus on sharing successes, best practices, and resources as well as discussions that identify common barriers, challenges, and strategies to overcome them. The next Live Meeting will be held on Thursday, June 28 at 3pm ET. [More information from Implementation Center is here.](#)

BFS-ICARE Live Meetings

The BFS-ICARE Live Meetings are web-based interactive meeting focusing on the national “Strive for 65” goal and the BFS (Bereaved Family Survey) Implementation Package developed by the Quality Improvement Resource Center (QuIRC). They are held the 4th Thursday of every month at 3:00 pm Eastern Time. VA staff who received grants for the ICARE and Serious Illness project are especially encouraged to participate. All calls are via VANTS (800) 767-1750 and agendas are posted to the SharePoint: <https://vaww.visn3.portal.va.gov/sites/NationalImplementationCenter>

Transition to Mail Surveys Continues

The following VISNs have transitioned completely to mail surveys, starting with Q3FY12 deaths – 1, 2, 11, 19, 20, & 23. VISNs 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 15, & 18 will transition in Q4FY12. The Q2FY12 full report will be released on July 2nd. Please contact Dawn Smith at dawn.smith2@va.gov to schedule a hot seat call or to request additional data breakouts.

