

September 25, 2012

Dear Colleagues:

You should have already received a message from Andy Carter earlier today announcing his resignation. I wanted to take this opportunity to recognize Andy's contributions to the VNAA and the great strides we have made over the last five years. Our progress wouldn't have been possible without Andy's leadership and our members' commitment to the VNAA's vision – to make our communities healthier by providing quality care in the way and in the place people choose. VNAA members - large and small, independent and system-based home health and hospice organizations - take care of patients that are often the most vulnerable, the sickest, and the most complex, and we recognize that the health of our friends, neighbors and the community is a priority.

Andy demonstrated great leadership during a period of significant change in the healthcare landscape and worked to build an exceptional staff and robust infrastructure at VNAA that leaves us well positioned for the future.

To ensure the VNAA maintains its momentum going forward, the Board of Directors is moving forward rapidly and has created a search committee to immediately launch a national search for a new CEO. While the search is underway, Andy will continue in his role, and I am confident in the VNAA's staff's ability to steer the important work we have embarked upon and to work closely with all of our members and partner organizations.

Throughout this process, I will keep you informed of our progress and, because it is likely that the new CEO will not be in place until early next year, the Board will announce its plans for interim leadership in the coming weeks.

The healthcare system and the nation are facing profound challenges but there are also exciting opportunities. Home healthcare and hospice will play an increasingly critical role, and a strong VNAA is essential in moving toward results that achieve higher quality and better outcomes for our patients. I am very excited about the possibilities ahead of us and look forward to working with all of your to realize our vision.



Lynn C. Jones
Chairman, VNAA Board of Directors