

May 7, 2013 - Verde Valley Caregivers Receives Grants to Advance Hospital to Home Services for Older Adults

Verde Valley Caregivers Coalition announced it received two grants to help older adults transition from hospital to home. VVCC received \$7,500 from The Arizona Republic/12 News Season for Sharing campaign and \$5,000 from the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation.

Officials from The Arizona Republic, 12 News and AZcentral.com said the grant is one more way they can partner with their readers and viewers to serve the greater good and improve the quality of life in our communities.

VVCC Executive Director Kent Ellsworth said Season for Sharing awarded \$5,000 last year to fund the organization's start-up phase for the Transitional Care Program, which eases hospital to home for older adults who need assistive services upon discharge from the hospital. Ellsworth said this year's award will help support operations for the growing number of clients.

The Transitional Care has already served nearly 120 clients and is receiving about five new clients each week. This year, The Arizona Diamondbacks awarded funds for Transitional Care and VVCC's Guardian Angel Program, which loans medical alert units to older adults who are at-risk for falling down or live alone.

Ellsworth attended an April 27 reception at Chase Field which recognized AZ Diamondback grant recipients. Ellsworth said, "The Arizona Diamondbacks are truly making a difference for our state."