



2020

Community Nursing is in RDNA

One of three remaining district nursing agencies in the State of Maine, RDNA continues the historic tradition of community nursing. These services help keep residents healthy, independently in their own homes, and out of more expensive facilities.

Founded in 1929, RDNA remains an independent, local, 501(c)(3) non-profit agency, providing non-acute, in-home, professional nursing and community health services. As part of the Rockland area community health and safety infrastructure, the generosity of this community enables RDNA to reach neighbors otherwise without access to this non-acute nursing care. Without federal/state funds or insurance reimbursement, RDNA relies on gifts and contributions to cover the majority of the annual operating costs. Thereby fees remain affordable and services accessible. Efficient organizational structure and extensive in-kind assistance allow RDNA to focus funds received on serving the community.

2019 STATISTICS

Number of unduplicated residents served annually: 230

Average age of clients:

81 (80% of clients 70 or older) ~ living independently

Average # of in-home visits per month: 152

Number of times residents served in 2019: 2,131

Miles driven in 2019: 6,500

Outreach and fundraising hours donated in 2019: 2,500+

Nursing staff (*as of Jan 2020*):

6 RNs and 1 LPN (all part-time) with 280+ years combined nursing experience

Communities served:

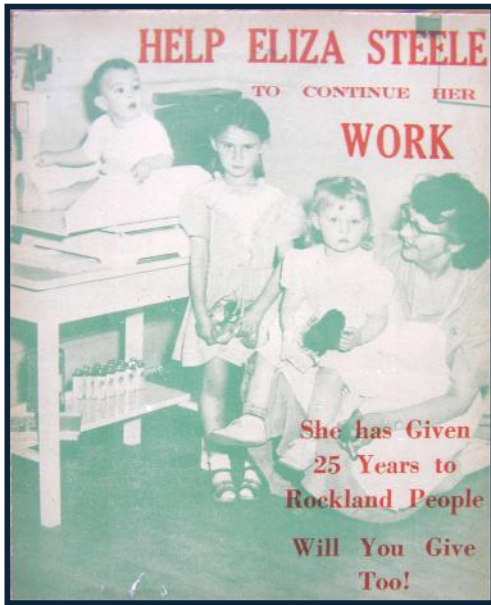
Rockland ~ Thomaston ~ South Thomaston ~ Owls Head ~ St. George ~ Cushing ~ Warren ~ Union

Nursing services include: medication management ~ foot care ~ injections ~ pre-draw insulin syringes
blood draws ~ vital sign & O2 checks ~ health assessments ~ community health / home instruction

4 monthly blood pressure clinics in senior congregate housing facilities

RDNA collaborates with area emergency management and supports law enforcement unwanted medication collection





AGENCY FUNDING (FY 2018/19)

Income

52% - Community donations (*including towns*)

18% - Grants

15% - Client Fees

15% - Endowment

0% - Medicare, MaineCare, insurance reimbursements

Expenses

\$0.86 of every dollar received returned to the community in service

Funds received remain in the midcoast area

SPECIAL ENDOWMENT FUNDS

RDNA Talbot Home Fund (*formerly the Home for Aged Women*)

RDNA Nancy K Lewis Memorial Fund

HISTORY

This midcoast region has a history of quality and progressive community health care, for decades led in Rockland by Eliza Steele, RN, RDNA's founding nurse. Ms. Steele served as RDNA's primary nurse from 1929 until her retirement in 1968. She and her staff were familiar figures walking from visit to visit, often offered rides by passersby. Early on, Margaret Torfason, RN, joined Ms. Steele as her colleague, later following as her successor. Through the decades, and the upheavals of the Great Depression and World War II, RDNA addressed the emerging health needs of this coastal region. Ms. Steele recruited local physicians and dentists for community wellness, vaccination and dental clinics – free of charge, including follow-up care. During outbreaks of infectious disease, the nurses identified and cared for the ill, while monitoring the progress of the disease. For generations, Ms. Steele was the only nurse in the local schools, regularly screening students and maintaining student health records well before such records were mandated. RDNA understood, and continues to understand, that our collective health depends on the well being of the most vulnerable among us.

EXCERPT FROM THE *SHORE VILLAGE STORY* [Published by The Rockland Bicentennial Commission]

“Over the years, Miss Steele greatly expanded the home health care and clinical programs of this association.... She was this community's pioneer in the establishment of adequate nursing services for Rockland residents. In addition.... She baptized babies who were dying. She accompanied patients to the Bangor Mental Health Institute because some would not respond to anyone else. She assisted with adoptions; was instrumental in getting children admitted to the Baxter School for the Deaf; worked closely with our city welfare director on many family problems; aided unwed mothers before AFDC was available; testified in child abuse cases; packed toys for needy children at Christmas time; taught classes in child care to Candy Strippers at Knox Hospital, and much, much more... (she) is remembered as one of Rockland's most remarkable and dedicated citizens.”