

# GRANT OVERVIEW

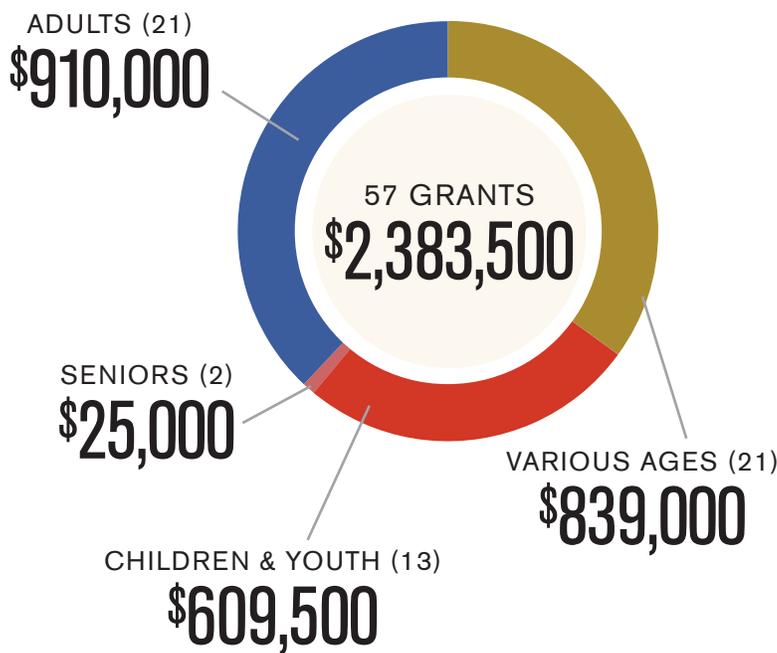
54 GRANTS \$2,273,500 + 3 SPECIAL INITIATIVE GRANTS \$110,000

VNA Foundation awards grants to agencies that offer home- and community-based healthcare services to the medically underserved in Chicago and the collar counties. As a public health focused funder, we watch the needs of populations and identify disparities and service gaps that can be meaningfully addressed through our support. We know that many needs can be met by replicating proven models or growing the capacity of existing agencies, but some require investment in a new approach or solution. In FY17 VNA awarded 54 grants through our traditional responsive grantmaking (grant requests initiated by applicant agencies) and three towards Special Initiatives (larger grants initiated by VNA and supporting innovation).

## DEMOGRAPHICS

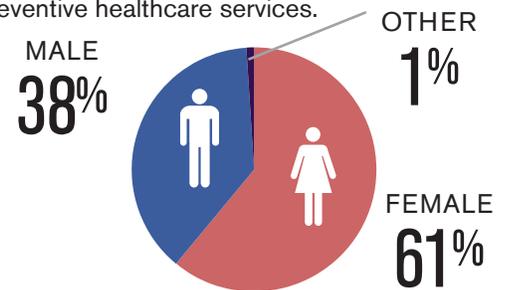
### GRANTS BY POPULATION

VNA grantmaking supports the disenfranchised. With most children and many more adults now covered by Medicaid, we focused our grantmaking on populations that remain underserved despite healthcare reform efforts.



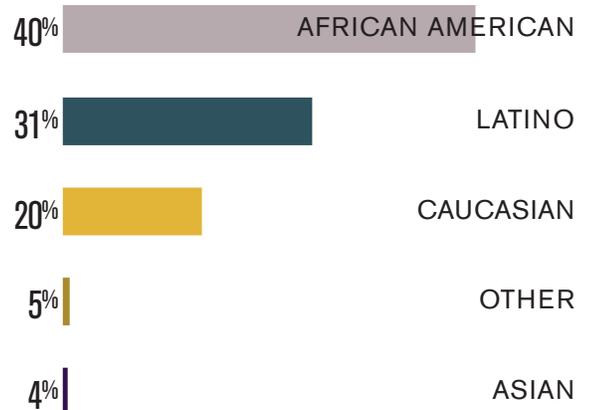
### GRANTS BY GENDER

Women are 38% more likely to live in poverty than men. VNA funding helps address this disparity by supporting grants to reduce breast cancer mortality and violence against women, and to increase access to supportive housing and preventive healthcare services.



### GRANTS BY ETHNICITY

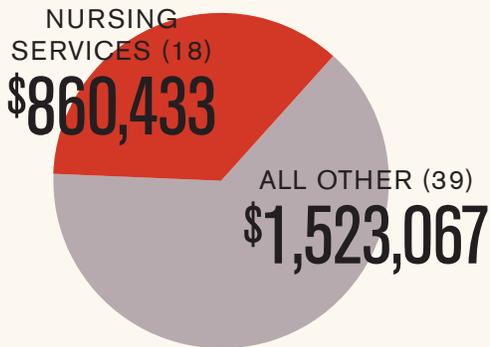
All grants awarded by VNA support services for medically underserved populations, many of whom are impacted by racial disparities.



# SERVICES

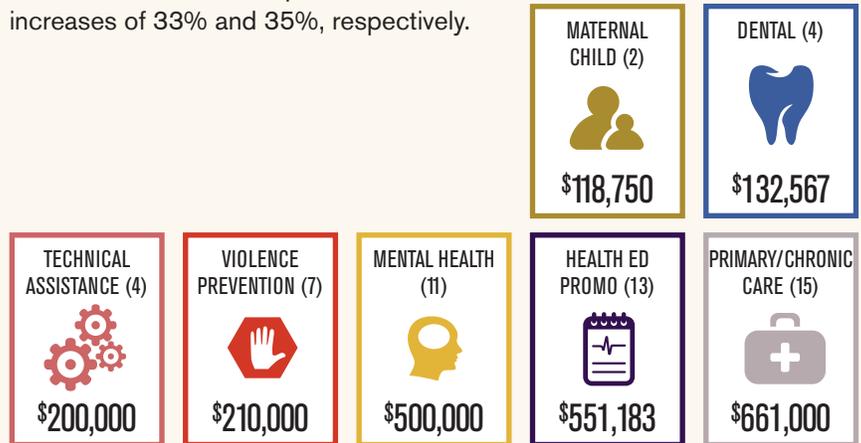
## NURSING SERVICES

The needs of medically underserved persons are varied, yet just as in the days when VNA was a service provider sending nurses into the homes of those in need, many health issues today are still best addressed through services that involve nursing.



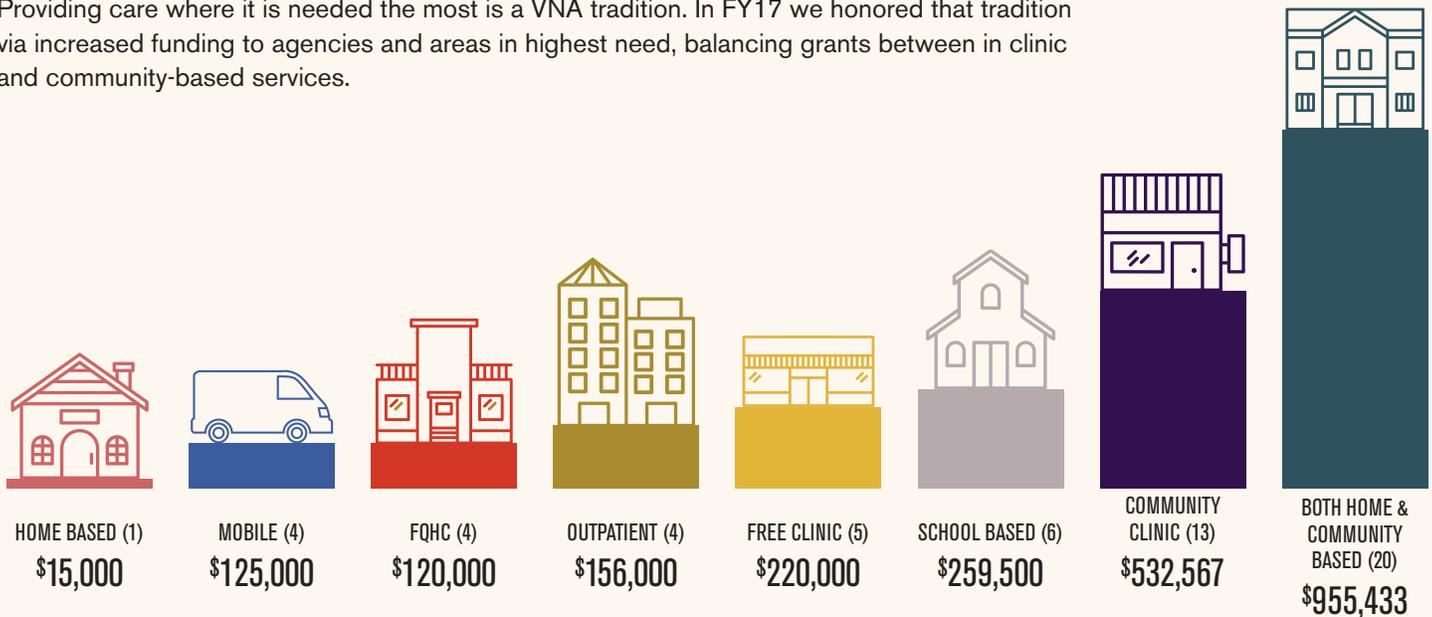
## GRANTS BY SERVICE PROVIDED

In response to a better understanding of how behaviors and lifestyle impact health and chronic disease management, VNA funding for health education and promotion increased by more than 65% in FY 17. Funding for technical assistance and violence prevention also saw increases of 33% and 35%, respectively.



## GRANTS BY SERVICE SETTING

Providing care where it is needed the most is a VNA tradition. In FY17 we honored that tradition via increased funding to agencies and areas in highest need, balancing grants between in clinic and community-based services.



## GRANTS BY TYPE OF SUPPORT

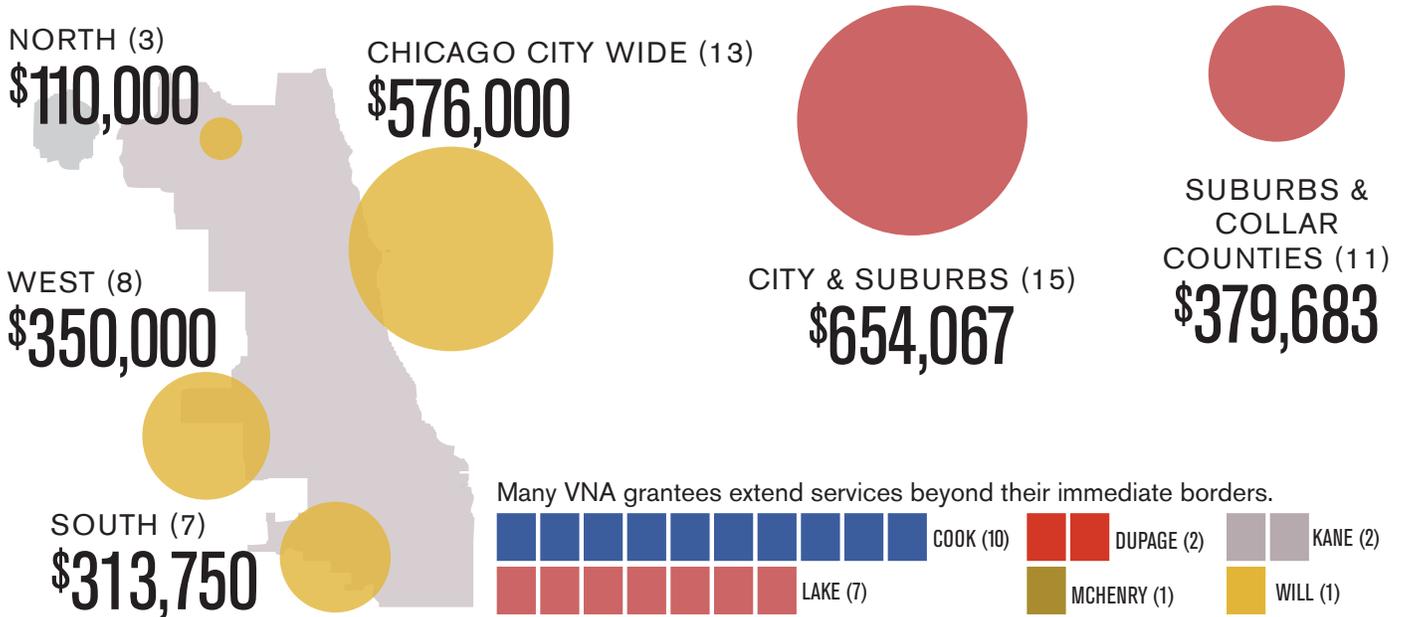
VNA recognizes that sometimes the most effective grants are ones that fund general operations or pay the salaries for program staff, and in FY17, our funding to support both increased substantially.



# GEOGRAPHY

## GRANTS BY GEOGRAPHIC AREAS

Knowing that healthcare needs beyond urban centers are real, urgent and growing, VNA awards grants throughout Cook and the collar counties.



## LESSONS LEARNED

Although the social impact sector endured incredible hardship in FY 17, the perseverance and dedication of Illinois nonprofits ensured services were provided to the medically underserved clients that relied on their care.

“ We were forced to suspend home visiting services for pregnant and parenting young women in response to the state budget crisis, but were thrilled that we were able to continue providing doula services to support precariously housed pregnant young women.

“ Threats to the Affordable Care Act represent real and dire consequences for the health and well-being of people living with HIV/AIDS and related chronic conditions, and for this reason, we must continue to monitor and respond to healthcare reform with a focus on protecting our client population.

“ The lack of school budget created anxiety and uncertainty among teachers who saw their classroom size increase while resources were trimmed back or eliminated. As a result, we have been working to expand the scope of services to support educators, while maintaining our core offerings to children.

“ With over \$300,000 from the state of Illinois yet to be paid out, the agency is implementing furlough days just one day a week for all full-time staff, staggering the days to ensure the DV survivors and their children are still served.

“ The IBCCP was significantly underfunded and there were waiting lists in some areas, so we utilized donated mammograms and helped women to travel to and navigate agencies that had services available.

“ While recovering from financial challenges, we learned to utilize our community resources and partners to minimize the impact of program and staff reductions.

# SPECIAL INITIATIVES

VNA Special Initiatives are proactive grants for innovative purposes, and represent the foundation's highest level of philosophical and financial commitment.

For more information or to discuss how you might partner with VNA in any of these Special Initiatives, visit our website at [www.vnafoundation.net/special-initiatives](http://www.vnafoundation.net/special-initiatives) or give us a call at 312-214-1521.



## STREETLIGHT CHICAGO

**Chicago Coalition for the Homeless (CCH) and Young Invincibles (YI)** were awarded \$25,000 and \$75,000, respectively, to continue build out and expand the reach of **Streetlight Chicago**, a mobile phone application ("the app") that gives homeless youth in Chicago real-time information about nearby health services, emergency shelter, and a variety of other services key to their survival and progress. The overall goal of the app is to empower young adults by improving their health and well-being, thereby decreasing the isolation and hopelessness experienced by many precariously-housed young adults, and positioning them for transition out of homelessness. The app also benefits providers by streamlining databases to make it simpler for them to convey information about their services both to their target audience and fellow providers.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

chicago  
foundation  
for women

In partnership with our colleagues at the **Chicago Foundation for Women (CFW)**, VNA is researching a potential new funding effort for our foundations that will impact the health of residents in Metro

Chicago collar counties. Although both VNA and CFW are perhaps best known for funding in or near the city of Chicago, the geographic scope of grantmaking for both our foundations also includes the counties that border Cook. In recent months, we have developed and discussed a joint interest in identifying areas of health needs, in particular in McHenry and Will Counties, that we may be able to help address. We are currently in the information gathering stage, and with the help of our interns from Adler University's Clinical Psychology Program and the University of Chicago's Social Service Administration program, a review of published data is complete and interviews with key stakeholders are underway.

## MOBILE DENTAL PROGRAM

The **Anne M. Davis Mobile Health Award (AMDMHA)** is awarded up to once per year, at the discretion of the VNA Foundation Board of Directors, to a grantee using mobile health services in a particularly innovative, effective and/or impactful way. In FY17 the **Rosalind Franklin University (RFU) Scholl Podiatric Care for the Underserved Program** received the AMDMHA and a \$10,000 gift for its outstanding work bringing quality foot care to the medically underserved. All care is provided by RFU students and faculty at no charge from temporary clinics organized at approximately 10 community sites in Lake and Cook Counties. Unlike other mobile programs that provide only episodic care, the RFU Program maintains contact with each organization to schedule regular visits and promulgate logistics. The Program's emphasis on tailoring services (from nail care to orthotics to wound treatment) to the unique needs of each site has allowed it to achieve measurable reductions in maladies like chronic foot pain and diabetic foot ulcers – making this innovative program most worthy of AMDMHA recognition.

VNA Foundation



*For Excellence in Care  
to Underserved Communities*

## OUR MISSION

Our mission today is the same as it was in 1890: To support home- and community-based healthcare for the medically underserved in the Chicago metropolitan area.

VNA Foundation

312-214-1521 | [www.vnafoundation.net](http://www.vnafoundation.net)