

**Visiting Nurse Association North Records**  
**1898 – 1997, n.d.**

**Creator:** Visiting Nurse Association North

**Extent:** 4.75 linear feet

**Location:**

**Processor:** Kathryn Wilmot, April 2004. Updated by Elizabeth A. Myers, April 2007. Updated by Becca Smith, June 2011.

**Administration Information**

**Access Restrictions:** None

**Usage Restrictions:** Copyright of material created by the Visiting Nurse Association North has been transferred to the Women and Leadership Archives.

**Preferred Citation:** Loyola University Chicago, Women and Leadership Archives, Visiting Nurse Association North, *Box #, Folder #*

**Provenance:** Geraldine Gorman donated the records to the Loyola University Chicago Archives and then approved their transfer to the Women and Leadership Archives in summer 2003 (WLA2003.13).

**Separations:** 2 linear feet of duplicate material, 1 linear foot of papers of Geraldine Gorman papers

**See Also:** Geraldine Gorman Papers

**Administrative History**

Concerned with the presence of disease and the lack of proper health care in the Evanston area, the Visiting Nurse Committee comprised of Mrs. Peter Lutkin, Mrs. Charles Chandler, and Mrs. Roger McMullen founded the Visiting Nurse Association of Evanston (later known as the VNA North) in 1897. In memory of her daughter Edna who died from diphtheria, Mrs. McMullen contributed four months' of a visiting nurse's salary toward the experiment. Miss Frances Faltz, who had been Edna's nurse, became the VNA's first visiting nurse in 1898.

The nurses provided physical and emotional comfort to people in the community who might not otherwise be able to afford health care. Local philanthropic organizations soon became involved in supporting VNA North's mission, and VNA North slowly expanded its operations, becoming incorporated in 1912. Although they had not originally cared for patients with communicable diseases, the visiting nurses began to do so in 1926. Continuing to add services as the needs of Evanston and the surrounding communities dictated, the nurses educated patients about proper hygiene and nutrition as ways of preventing disease. Moreover, they were involved in issues of pre-natal care, parenting classes, infant welfare, tuberculosis, venereal disease, mental health, polio, physical therapy, hospice care, and other social services. The effects of historical events such as the Great Depression and World War II are evident throughout the collection.

During its existence, the VNA North was affiliated with the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, Evanston Hospital, Loyola University of Chicago, John Hancock Life Insurance Company, the National Foundation of Infantile Paralysis, as well as numerous other organizations.

By 1984, VNA North merged with the VNAs of Glenview and Skokie in order to serve twenty-nine communities. Due to the challenges created by the growth in managed care, in 1996 VNA North

affiliated with Evanston Hospital Corporation (later known as Evanston Northwestern Healthcare). In 1997, VNA North was fully integrated into Evanston Northwestern Healthcare and was renamed ENH Home Services.

### **Scope and Content**

The Visiting Nurse Association North collection spans the years from 1898 to 1997 and documents the history and activities of the organization. The collection has been divided into 7 series and consists of organizational materials, newspaper clippings, Evanston Hospital Corporation/Evanston Northwestern Healthcare affiliation, commemoration and celebration, photographs, videocassettes, and memorabilia.

**Series 1: Organizational Materials, 1903 – 1997, n.d., Boxes 1-3,** includes historical sketches and data, annual reports of the various VNA divisions, meeting minutes, lists of the board of directors, general correspondence, the VNA affiliation with Loyola University Chicago, nursing documentation, letters of appreciation from patients, and personnel manuals. This information documents the evolution and expansion of the organization, its affiliation with various community organizations that assisted with funding, the role of the nurses in the community, the various diseases and medical problems that affected the Chicago area, the issues of segregation, and how historical events such as the Depression and World War II affected the organization. This material reveals the concern and commitment of the nurses and the importance of the emotional and physical comfort they provided to their patients. The series has been organized so that the historical information appears first in the form of historical sketches and data; the rest of the files then follow in alphabetical order. Papers within each folder are arranged chronologically.

**Series 2: Evanston Hospital Corporation / Evanston Northwestern Healthcare Affiliation, 1997, n.d., Box 3,** includes correspondence from employees of VNA North to Ray Grady from the Evanston Hospital Corporation concerning the merger of the two entities. This correspondence outlines the concerns of VNA employees and the results of their meetings with Ray Grady. In addition, there is promotional material regarding the name change and merger of these organizations.

**Series 3: Commemoration and Celebration, 1997, Box 3,** the bulk of this series contains fliers, press releases, photographs, letters of appreciation, and newspaper articles about the ceremony held on September 21, 1997 to commemorate the 100 years of service provided by the nurses of VNA North. Also included is material from the Chicago Catholic Women's benefit luncheon and tribute to the VNAs throughout Chicagoland.

**Series 4: Audiovisual/ 3D Objects, [1898] – 1997, n.d., Boxes 4-7,** details the history of the VNA North and includes photographs and slides of VNA office staff, nurses, and patients. These photographs reveal the ways in which the nurses served their community through visiting their patients and providing educational and therapeutic services for the elderly, the young, expectant parents, and the disabled. This series also includes clippings describing the role of the public health nurse in the community, maternity care and infant welfare services provided participation in community events, affiliation with the North Shore Association for Crippled Children, and World War II service. There are also three videocassettes, a scrapbook and guest book, as well as memorabilia including a hat and pen from Evanston Northwestern Healthcare.

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**Subjects:**

Community Organizations

Disease

Education

Great Depression

Home Health Care

Loyola University Chicago

Maternity Care

Nursing

Race Relations

World War II

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<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
<b>Series 1: Organizational Materials, 1903-1997, n.d.</b>			
1	1	Historical Sketches, incl. biography of Lydia Sheall	1944
	2	Historical Sketches	[1945]
	3	Historical Sketches – for Evanston Community Chest	1947
	4	Historical Sketches	[1957-1959]
	5	Historical Sketches	[1971-1997]
	6	Historical Sketches – General information notebook	n.d.
	7	Historical Sketches – VNA and community	n.d.
	8	Historical Data	1934, n.d.
	9	Historical Data	[1938]
	10	Historical Data	[1945-1985]
	11	Annual Reports	1909-1914
	12	Annual Reports	1915-1916, 1918-1925
	13	Annual Reports	1926-1929
	14	Annual Report 1930 – President’s Report	[1931]
	15	Annual Report 1930 – Superintendent of Nurses Report	[1931]
	16	Annual Report 1932 – President’s Report	[1933]
	17	Annual Report 1932 – Superintendent of Nurses Report	[1933]
	18	Annual Report 1933 – President’s Report	[1934]
	19	Annual Report 1933 – Superintendent of Nurses Report	[1934]
	20	Annual Report 1934 – Community Chest Report	[1935]
	21	Annual Report 1934 – Finance Committee Report	[1935]
	22	Annual Report 1934 – Financial Report	[1935]
	23	Annual Report 1934 – Publicity Committee Report	1935
	24	Annual Report 1934 – Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary Report	1935
	25	Annual Report 1934 – Thrift House Committee	[1935]
	26	Annual Report 1935	[1936]
	27	Annual Report 1935 – Evanston Council of Social Agencies	1936
	28	Annual Report 1935 – Finance Committee	[1936]
	29	Annual Report 1935 – Financial Report	[1936]
	30	Annual Report 1935 – Maternity Report	[1936]
	31	Annual Report 1935 – Nursing Committee	[1936]
	32	Annual Report 1935 – Orthopedic Division and Orthopedic Follow-up	[1936]
	33	Annual Report 1935 – President’s Report	[1936]

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1	34	Annual Report 1935 – Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary	1936
	35	Annual Report 1935 – Superintendent of Nurses Report	[1936]
	36	Annual Report 1935 – Thrift House Committee	[1935]
	37	Annual Report 1936 – Orthopedic Division Report	[1937]
	38	Annual Report 1936 – Superintendent of Nurses Report	[1937]
	39	Annual Report 1937 – Financial Report	[1938]
	40	Annual Report 1937 – Orthopedic Division Report	[1938]
	41	Annual Report 1937 – President’s Report	[1938]
	42	Annual Report 1937 – Superintendent of Nurses Report	[1938]
	43	Annual Report 1938 – Evanston Society for Crippled Children	[1939]
	44	Annual Report 1938 – Financial Report	1939
	45	Annual Report 1938 – Maternity Division Report	[1939]
	46	Annual Report 1938 – Orthopedic Division Report	[1939]
	47	Annual Report 1938 – President’s Report	[1939]
	48	Annual Report 1938 – Superintendent of Nurses Report	[1939]
	49	Annual Report 1939 – Financial Report	1940
	50	Annual Report 1939 – Maternity Division Report	[1940]
	51	Annual Report 1939 – Orthopedic Division Report	[1940]
	52	Annual Report 1939 – Superintendent of Nurses Report	[1940]
2	1	Annual Report 1940 – North Shore Society for the Crippled	[1941]
	2	Annual Report 1940 – Program	[1941]
	3	Annual Report 1940 – Statistical Report	[1941]
	4	Annual Report 1943 – Supervisor’s Report	[1944]
	5	Annual Report 1953 – Director’s Report	[1954]
	6	Annual Report 1954 – Director’s Report	1955
	7	Annual Report [1954] – President’s Report	1955
	8	Annual Report 1961	[1962]
	9	Annual Report 1961 – Director’s Report	1962
	10	Annual Report 1961 – Glenview Service Report	1962
	11	Annual Report 1961 – Statistical Report	[1962]
	12	Annual Report 1961 – VNA of Glenview	[1962]
	13	Annual Report 1962	[1963]
	14	Annual Report 1963	[1964]
	15	Annual Reports	1966-1969
	16	Annual Reports	1970-1972, 1975
	17	Annual Reports	1979-1980, 1982-1983
	18	Annual Reports	1983-1985
	19	Annual Reports	1985-1987
	20	Annual Reports	1987-1988, 1989-1991
	21	Annual Reports	1991-1994, 1995-1996

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2	22	Board of Directors and Committees	1933-1953
	23	Board of Directors and Committees	1954-1964
	24	Board of Directors Meeting – FY 1995 Reports	1995
	25	Board Members Manual and Personnel Policies	1947
	26	Board Members Manual and Personnel Policies	1947-1954
	27	Brochures	1903-1931, n.d.
	28	Centennial Celebration	1997
	29	Correspondence	1933-1993
	30	Finance Committee Meeting	1995
	31	Fiscal Year 1997 Budget	1996
	32	Gifts	1950
	33	Handmaidens Documentary	1996-1997
	34	Letters of Appreciation	1993-1995
	35	Letters of Appreciation	1995-1996

3	1	Loyola Affiliation – Student Nurse Field Training	1941-1945, n.d.
	2	Meeting Minutes	1926-1930
	3	Meeting Minutes	1931-1934
	4	Meeting Minutes	1935-1936
	5	Newsletters	1989, 1992
	6	Nurses Documentation	1994-1997, n.d.
	9	Nursing Education	1962, n.d.
	10	Organizational Structure	1942, n.d.
	11	Staff Address and Phone List	1951-1955, 1997
	12	VNA Chicago – Union Contract	1994-1996
	13	VNAA – Board of Directors / Personnel	1996-1997

**Series 2: Evanston Hospital Corporation / Evanston  
Northwestern Healthcare Affiliation, 1997**

3	14	Correspondence and Meetings with Ray Grady – Evanston Hospital Corp.	1997
	15	Name Change – Evanston Northwestern Healthcare and ENH Home Services	1997

**Series 3: Commemoration and Celebration,  
1997, n.d.**

3	16	Letters of Appreciation	1997, n.d.
	17	McCarron Article and Responses	1997
	18	Memorial Cards	1997
	19	Preparation	1997
	20	Press Release	1997
	21	Program and Newspaper Article	1997
	22	Statements and Remembrances	1997, n.d.

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3      23      Chicago Catholic Women Benefit Luncheon      1997

**Series 4: Audiovisual/ 3D Objects, [1898]-1997, n.d.**

***Photographs***

4	1	Boone Center for Health Education	1994
	2	Clinton, President Bill	n.d.
	3	Commemoration and Celebration, 1 of 2	1997
	4	Commemoration and Celebration, 2 of 2	1997
	5	Education – Expectant Father Classes	n.d.
	6	Education – General	n.d.
	7	Education – Nutrition	n.d.
	8	Education – Relaxation Exercises	1981
	9	History of VNA Display	[1990]
	10	Mather Home Sewing Circle	1959
	11	Negatives – Celebration / Commemoration	1997
	12	Negatives – General, 1 of 2	n.d.
	13	Negatives – General, 2 of 2	n.d.
	14	Negative – Lutkin, Mrs. Peter	n.d.
	15	Nurses – Harriet Ely	[1912]
	16	Nurses – Frances Faltz	[1898]
	17	Nurses – General	1947
	18	Nurses – General	n.d.
	19	Nurses – Reviewing Cases	n.d.
	20	Nurses with Children – Check-up	n.d.
	21	Nurses with Children – General	1932
	22	Nurses with Children – General	n.d.
	23	Nurses with Children – Infant Care	1961
	24	Nurses with Children – Infant Care	n.d.
	25	Nurses with Children – Polio	1947
	26	Nurses with Children – Polio	n.d.
	27	Nurses with Children – Visiting Schoolchildren	1946
	28	Nurses with Elderly	1983
	29	Nurses with Elderly	[1986]
	30	Nurses with Elderly	1989
	31	Nurses with Elderly, 1 of 2	n.d.
	32	Nurses with Elderly, 2 of 2	n.d.
	33	Patients	[1986]
	34	Patients	n.d.
	35	Patient Visits	1932
	36	Patient Visits	1952
	37	Patient Visits	1989
	38	Patient Visits, 1 of 3	n.d.
	39	Patient Visits, 2 of 3	n.d.
	40	Patient Visits, 3 of 3	n.d.

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4	41	Proof Sheets, 1 of 2	[1983]
	42	Proof Sheets, 2 of 2	[1983]
	43	Staff Halloween Party	n.d.
	44	Unidentified Photographs	n.d.
	45	Unidentified VNA Event, 1 of 2	n.d.
	46	Unidentified VNA Event, 2 of 2	n.d.
5	1	Unidentified VNA Events – General	n.d.
	2	Venetian Night	1986
	3	VNA Event	1994
	4	VNA Offices and Staff	n.d.
	5	Chicago Catholic Women Benefit Luncheon	1997
<i>Slides</i>			
5	6	Slides	n.d.
<i>Clippings</i>			
5	7	Newspaper Clippings	1915 – 1997, n.d.
	8	Newspaper Clippings	1944 – 1972
<i>Videocassettes</i>			
5	9	Interview of Kate Carey and Lois Stuart	1987
	10	ServiceMaster videocassette, “We Serve ‘96”	1996
	11	VNAA videocassette “President’s Report to Membership,” “VNA of the Future”	1994
<i>Awards</i>			
5		Award to VNA from Chicago Catholic Women	1997
<i>Scrapbooks</i>			
6	1	Guest Book	1997
	2	Scrapbook	1941-1973
<i>Memorabilia</i>			
7		Evanston Northwestern Healthcare hat	[1997]
		Evanston Northwestern Healthcare pen	[1997]