



## NEWS RELEASE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **VA CAREGIVER SUPPORT LINE CELEBRATES 5 YEARS AT THE CANANDIAGUA VA MEDICAL CENTER**

On February 1, 2016, the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will mark the five-year anniversary of the toll-free National VA Caregiver Support Line, 1-855-260-3274.

The Caregiver Support Line has served over 221,000 callers since its inception.

Staffed by licensed social workers, the Support Line is available to provide supportive counseling, education on topics related to caregiving, and help to connect Caregivers to local supports and services to assist them in their caregiving role, including a referral to a local Caregiver Support Coordinator located at every VA medical center nationwide.

“We are honored that so many Caregivers continue to reach out for assistance and VA remains committed to supporting those who care for our nation’s Veterans,” said Meg Kabat, National Director of VA’s Caregiver Support Program.

To further support Caregivers, the Caregiver Support Line also facilitates telephone education presentations several times each month for Caregivers, with a focus on self-care. The CSL recently launched its first Caregiver facilitated presentation, led by a Caregiver who is the wife of a Veteran injured in the line of duty. “This Caregiver shared her story of caring for her husband, including her challenges and how she has coped with them. With over 140 Caregivers participating in this call, we know her story offered hope and inspiration for others who may be struggling,” shared Kabat.

The Caregiver Support Line is one of many supports offered through VA’s National Caregiver Support Program, available to Caregivers of Veterans who served in any era.

Social Workers at the Caregiver Support Line are available by calling toll free 1-855-260-3274.

Visit the Canandaigua VA Medical Center [News Room](#), [Calendar of Upcoming Events](#) and [Canandaigua VA Facebook](#) to learn more.

The Canandaigua VA Medical Center is located at 400 Fort Hill Avenue Canandaigua, NY.

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