We may share your Protected Health Information for the following:

- To report health information to public health authorities for the purpose of preventing or controlling disease, injury, or disability;
- To report abuse and neglect to the appropriate state agencies;
- To report information to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) about products and activities it regulates;
- To prevent or lessen a serious and imminent health or safety threat to you, another person, or the public;
- To authorized federal officials for national security activities or specialized government functions;
- To report information to your employer as required under laws addressing work-related illnesses and injuries or workplace medical surveillance.

Fundraising Communications
We may contact you for financial contributions to Gifford and invite you to participate. We may use your name, address and phone number to contact you but we would not use your PHI for the purpose of fundraising. You may opt out of receiving any fundraising requests at any time by contacting the Development Office at (802) 728-2380.

Health Oversight Activities
To the extent authorized by law, we may share your Protected Health Information with a health oversight agency that oversees the healthcare system and ensures the rules of government health programs, such as Medicare or Medicaid, are being followed.

Legal and Administrative Proceedings
We may share your Protected Health Information in the course of a legal or administrative proceeding as required by law or in response to a court order.

Law Enforcement Purposes
We may share your Protected Health Information with the police or other law enforcement officials as required or permitted by law or in compliance with a court order.

Organ and Tissue Procurement
We may share your Protected Health Information with organizations that facilitate organ, eye, or tissue procurement, banking, or transplantation.

Decedents
We may share Protected Health Information with a medical examiner as authorized by law.

Workers’ Compensation
We may share your Protected Health Information as permitted by or required by state law relating to workers’ compensation or other similar programs.

As Required by Law
We may use and share your Protected Health Information to the extent we are required to do so by any other law not already referred to above.

Uses and Disclosures that We May Make Unless You Object

Directory: Unless you notify us that you object, we will use your name, location in the facility, general condition, and religious affiliation in our facility directory. This information may be provided to members of your family, friends, members of the clergy and, except for religious affiliation, to other people who ask for you by name.

Family or friends involved in care: Unless you object, health professionals, using their best judgment, may disclose to a family member, other relative, close personal friend or any other person you identify, health information relevant to that person’s involvement in your care or payment related to your care.

Health Information Exchange: Your health information may be made available through the Vermont Health Information Exchange ("VHIE"). The VHIE is operated by the Vermont Information Technology Leaders (VITL) and your treating health care providers may access your health information through the VHIE unless you have chosen to opt-out or unless you are in need of emergency treatment. For more information about VHIE, see www.vitl.net.

For More Information or to Report a Problem
If you have questions you may contact the Manager of Health Information Management at 44 South Main Street, Randolph, VT 05060; phone: (802) 728-2102 or complianceofficer@giffordhealthcare.org. You can also file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office for Civil Rights by sending a letter to 200 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20201, calling 1-877-696-6775, or visiting www.hhs.gov/ocr/privacy/hipaa/complaints. We will not retaliate against you for filing a complaint.
This notice describes how medical information about you may be used and shared and how you can get access to this information. Please review it carefully. The notice describes our legal duties and privacy practices for your Protected Health Information (PHI). PHI is the information that you provide us or that we create or receive about your health care providers and others may access your health information, and make more informed decisions about your treatment and payment. If you have questions about our practices, please contact us at the phone number listed above.

Understanding Your Health Record/Information
Each time you visit a hospital, physician, or other healthcare provider, a record of your visit is made. Typically, this record contains your symptoms, examination and test results, diagnoses, treatment, and a plan for future care or treatment. This information, which we refer to as your health or medical record, is an essential part of the health care we provide for you.

Your health record contains personal health information, the confidentiality of which is protected under both state and federal law, and by the safeguards we have in place to protect and secure it. Understanding how we expect to use and disclose your health information helps you to ensure its accuracy, better understand who, what, when, where, and why your health care providers and others may access your health information, and make more informed decisions when authorizing disclosure to others. Part or all of your medical record is in an electronic form, not on paper. That information is available to any th...