SASH participant Irene Montgomery of Milton had dangerously high blood pressure before joining SASH this year. Recently her doctor said Irene’s BP is “in the range of a 20-year-old,” reports her daughter.

WISHING ALL A HAPPY NEW YEAR filled with good health, positive growth and powerful partnerships that support Vermonters' health and well-being.

Celebrating Happier, Healthier Vermonters!

More than 5,000 adults throughout Vermont are enjoying better mental and physical health thanks to the programs and services of SASH. A “team sport” if ever there was one, SASH combines the strength and wisdom of 60+ partner organizations in Vermont into a single system of collaborative, coordinated care that reaps tremendous benefits for participants while also saving Medicare expenditures.

Consider these facts:

- The latest independent evaluation of SASH documented Medicare savings of $1,227 per participant per year among early SASH groups.

- Developed right here in Vermont, SASH went “live” in 2011 and has gone on to win numerous awards and recognitions. Today it is nationally renowned -- internationally renowned counting Canada -- and a model for other states.

- SASH is the inspiration behind a three-year, $15 million national demonstration project funded by HUD and now underway in seven states.

- SASH is cited as a program to emulate in LeadingAge’s newly released report "Integrated Service Delivery: A LeadingAge Vision for America's Aging Population," the organization’s proposal for reforming our health-care system to make it “far more efficient [by taking] a far
more comprehensive view of each older adult’s need for medical care, housing, social supports and financial security.

- And then there are the results:
  - 76% of SASH participants have controlled hypertension compared to 50% of hypertension-afflicted older adults nationally.
  - 67% of SASH participants get regular flu vaccines (vs. 45% of all U.S. adults).
  - 69% of SASH participants have the pneumococcal vaccine (vs. 23% of all U.S. adults).
  - 39% of SASH participants have the shingles vaccine (vs. 31% of U.S. adults age 60 and older).
  - 66% of SASH participants have advance directives (vs. 26% of all U.S. adults).

These outstanding outcomes are the direct result of the outstanding work of SASH partner organizations, comprised of dedicated professionals in:

- affordable housing
- home health agencies
- area agencies on aging
- developmental, mental health and addiction services
- primary care

CONGRATULATIONS and THANKS to all our "SASH team players" for all you have done to inspire good health and positive aging among older Vermonters!
As you celebrate the season and welcome the new year, remember as well to celebrate the role YOU have played in making SASH -- and SASH participants -- so successful.

Wishing all a Happy and Healthy New Year!

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**SASH Online Resources**

**SASH Website:** For the most up-to-date contact list and referral forms, visit [sashVT.org](http://sashVT.org).

**SASH Forum:** For current training information as well as staff tools and resources, visit the [Forum](http://sashVT.org) on the SASH website.

**SASH Job Opportunities:** Learn about available positions with SASH organizations statewide.