



A campaign to improve quality of life for residents & staff

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June 3, 2010

The Honorable Donald L. Carcieri  
Office of the Governor  
State House, Room 115  
Providence, RI 02903-1196

Dear Governor Carcieri:

We want you to be aware of the great distinction Rhode Island has achieved in our latest recruitment effort for the Advancing Excellence in America's Nursing Homes Campaign. By voluntarily participating in the Campaign, a nursing home makes a commitment to set measurable goals with numerical targets in at least three out of eight areas, and agrees to set objective benchmarks for performance improvement. No previous nursing home initiative has asked nursing homes to make such a bold promise to improve quality of care and life for nursing home residents and the staff who serve them. For the last three years, the Campaign has been tracking the outcomes for nursing home participating in the Campaign and we now know with some certainty that nursing homes in the campaign improve at rates faster than those not in the campaign. Rhode Island is one of only four states to achieve getting 100% of its nursing homes enrolled in the Campaign. Congratulations!

The Advancing Excellence Campaign represents a voluntary effort by a coalition of stakeholders concerned about nursing home quality. It is led by a national steering committee of thirty national organizations representing nursing home associations, consumer and advocacy organizations, professional organizations of practitioners, government agencies and others involved in nursing home quality. But a national group by itself cannot instigate change. It is through the work of the Rhode Island Local Area Networks of Excellence (LANE), the local coalition of nursing home stakeholders, that the work is being done. These stakeholders include your state's Long Term Care Ombudsman and state Survey agency, Quality Partners of Rhode Island, the Rhode Island Health Care Association and the Rhode Island Association of Facilities & Services for the Aging.



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Rhode Island's achievement in getting every nursing home in the state to enroll in the Campaign is due to the vision, determination and sustained effort of your long-term care leaders. We hope you will agree this group deserves full credit for taking such a definitive step to transforming the care in your state's nursing homes.

For more information about the Advancing Excellence Campaign, please visit [www.nhqualitycampaign.org](http://www.nhqualitycampaign.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Jane Koren M.D." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mary Jane Koren, M.D., M.P.H.  
Chair, Advancing Excellence Campaign

Assistant Vice President  
The Commonwealth Fund

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Condeelis" in a cursive style.

Chris Condeelis  
Vice-Chair, Advancing Excellence  
Campaign  
Sr. Director, Quality & Professional  
Development  
American Health Care Association