Hospital Leaders Meet with Gubernatorial Candidate Dan Malloy

On Tuesday, October 12, hospital executives and CHA staff met with Democratic gubernatorial candidate Dan Malloy, former mayor of Stamford, at his Hartford campaign office. Mr. Malloy greeted the hospital executives by noting that hospitals represent a growth industry in the state and acknowledging that the relationship between the state and hospitals must be a strong one. Mr. Malloy said he believed he particularly appreciates healthcare issues because his mother was a public health and school nurse, and his brother-in-law was a chief medical officer at a hospital system in Illinois.

The discussion with Mr. Malloy (pictured at meeting) ranged across a broad spectrum of hospital- and healthcare-related issues, including the state budget deficit, cost-shifting, the community health center model, mental health parity, the hospital tax, and the challenges of healthcare reform, focusing on meaningful use, and the opportunities for hospitals to collaborate with the state and each other. When asked about his position on a hospital tax, Mr. Malloy admitted he didn’t have easy answers, but he challenged the hospital executives to partner with him, if he is elected, to work on solutions.

Members who represented Connecticut’s hospitals at the meeting were Kyle Ballou, Administrative Director, Community and Government Relations, Yale-New Haven Hospital; Patrick Charmel, President and Chief Executive Officer, Griffin Hospital, and CHA Trustee; Mona Friedland, Vice President, Philanthropy, Windham Hospital; Martin Gavin, President and Chief Executive Officer, Connecticut Children’s Medical Center, and CHA Trustee; Steven Godfrey, Vice President, Payor Relations and Government Affairs, The Hospital of Central Connecticut; R. Christopher Hartley, Senior Vice President, Planning and Facilities, Saint Francis Hospital; Martha Judd, Director of Community Affairs, Hospital of Saint Raphael; Dennis McConville, Senior Vice President, Eastern Connecticut Health Network; Larry McGoldrick, Chairman, Board of Trustees, MidState Medical Center, and CHA Trustee; Curtis Robinson, member of the board at Saint Francis Hospital and Medical Center and CHA Trustee; Joel Reich, MD, Senior Vice President for Medical Affairs, Eastern Connecticut Health Network, and CHA Trustee; Lyn Salsgiver, Senior Vice President, Planning and Marketing, Bridgeport Hospital; and John Tobin, DMan, CEO, Waterbury Hospital.

CHA members met with Mr. Malloy’s opponent, Tom Foley, in April. Click here to read about that meeting.

Hospitals and DPH Collaborate on Emergency Preparedness

In late July, project managers from the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Hospital Preparedness Program (ASPR HPP) conducted a state site visit. The visit, which included interviews with staff from the Department of Public Health (DPH) and several member hospitals, assessed the capabilities and status of performance review measures relating to the federal grant money DPH receives under the Hospital Preparedness Program. The reviewers subsequently published a report indicating overall satisfaction with the way in which DPH and Connecticut hospitals are preparing for unexpected emergencies.

The Hospital Preparedness Program is designed to support emergency preparedness planning and response to mass casualty incidents. Through collaborative efforts with the Office of Public Health Preparedness at DPH, Connecticut’s hospitals conduct training exercises for unexpected emergencies including, but not limited to, natural disasters, large scale accidents, and pandemics.

DPH’s efforts, led by Mary Duley, MA, RN, CEN, Hospital Preparedness Coordinator, connect hospitals and other healthcare partners (community health centers, school-based health centers, and local health departments) with state and local public safety entities to identify needs, set priorities, and coordinate a comprehensive response to the health needs of state residents during an emergency situation.
CHA members involved in the ASPR HPP site visit included John Pelazza, Program Manager, Emergency Management at Bridgeport Hospital; Deborah Smith, Clinical Education Coordinator, and Don MacMillan, Emergency Manager Specialist, Yale-New Haven Hospital; and Anne Diamond, Associate VP of Operations, and Mark Petrone, Environment of Care Safety Officer, John Dempsey Hospital / UCONN Health Center.

**Election Season: Who’s Running for Secretary of State, Treasurer, Comptroller**

*Fifth in a series of articles looking at election season in Connecticut*

Jerry Farrell is the Republican nominee for the office of **Secretary of State**. Mr. Farrell is currently the state’s Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Protection (DCP) and is serving his eighth term as a member of the Wallingford Town Council. Prior to being named commissioner of DCP in 2006, Mr. Farrell served for two years as Deputy Commissioner.

As DCP commissioner, Mr. Farrell is the chief administrator of an agency that protects businesses and consumers from scams and unsound business practices. Before his state service, Mr. Farrell worked as an attorney in a small family law firm, with a focus mainly on assisting the elderly and advising small businesses.

A graduate of The College of the Holy Cross and Villanova University Law School, Mr. Farrell lives in Wallingford.

Running against Jerry Farrell is Denise Merrill, the Democratic nominee, currently serving her 17th year as the State Representative from the 54th District in the Connecticut General Assembly. A non-practicing attorney, Representative Merrill was a consultant to the Connecticut Department of Education, formerly served as Director of the Training Academy of the Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut, and also worked as a high school teacher.

As Majority Leader of the House of Representatives, Representative Merrill previously served as chair of the Appropriations Committee, on the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, the Education Committee, and the Legislative Management Committee. During her tenure as a state lawmaker, Representative Merrill has been actively involved in issues of education, and supported a number of women’s issues, including access to emergency contraception for victims of sexual assault, and mandatory insurance coverage for contraceptives and breast cancer detection. Representative Merrill is a graduate of the University of Connecticut, and she lives in Storrs.

Jeff Wright is the Republican nominee for **State Treasurer**. A current town council member and a second-term mayor of Newington, Mr. Wright is also a former seven-year commissioner at the MDC. Currently, Mr. Wright is the owner of Jeff Wright, CFP, an independent financial planning practice. A graduate of Marist College, Mr. Wright also served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve, earning an Honorable Discharge in 1997. Mr. Wright lives in Newington.

Denise Nappier, currently serving a third term as State Treasurer, is the Democratic nominee. Prior to being elected to statewide office, Ms. Nappier was Executive Director of Riverfront Recapture, an organization that worked on the reclamation of Greater Hartford’s riverfront. She has also served as a consultant for the State Office of Policy and Management, the Governor’s budget office; as Director of Institutional Relations at the University of Connecticut Health Center; and as principal administrative analyst in the Hartford City Manager’s Office. In 1989, she was elected to the first of five terms as Hartford City Treasurer, and in 1998 she was elected State Treasurer.

As Connecticut’s chief elected financial officer, Ms. Nappier oversees more than $50 billion in state funds, including the $26 billion Connecticut Retirement Plans and Trust Funds; and the $5 billion Short-Term Investment fund. She served five elected terms as Treasurer of the National Association of State Treasurers. She is also a board member of the Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Corporate Directors. A graduate of Virginia State University, Ms. Nappier earned a master’s degree from the University of Cincinnati.

Jack Orchulli is the Republican nominee for the office of **Comptroller**. In addition to working in the pharmaceutical industry, Mr. Orchulli served as CEO/Financial Partner in the fashion industry with designer/partner, Michael Kors. In 2003, after 21 years in the fashion industry, Mr. Orchulli sold his ownership interest in the company, entering the political arena as the Republican Party’s candidate to run against US Senator Chris Dodd in 2004. Unsuccessful in his bid for US Senate, Mr. Orchulli became a volunteer mayoral assistant to Richard Moccia of Norwalk, helping oversee the budget process and general operations. Mr. Orchulli was the RTC Chair in Darien and then served as the Republican State Party Finance Chair. Until 2009, he was a director of the Connecticut Development Authority.
Mr. Orchulli is a graduate of Rutgers University and earned a master’s degree in finance from B. M. Baruch College, City University of New York (CUNY).

Kevin Lembo is Mr. Orchulli’s Democratic opponent. Mr. Lembo is currently serving his second four-year term as the state Healthcare Advocate, where he leads the independent state agency that serves as a liaison for patients and their families dealing with the health insurance industry and other aspects of the healthcare delivery system. In the early 1990s, Mr. Lembo helped design and implement the first facility-based, long-term home healthcare program in northeastern New York. Following his work at the home care program, Lembo was named Program Director of an AIDS education, prevention, and primary care program, and during that time, he was also the co-chair of the Ryan White Care Network charged with making funding recommendations to the federal government, and for monitoring the local coordination of services.

Mr. Lembo holds a master of public administration degree from California State University and resides in Guilford.

Upcoming CHA Education Programs

**Coaching Skills to Improve Performance on Tuesday, October 26, 8:30-2:30**

The ability to have effective coaching conversations with colleagues and staff is a critical skill for leaders—and becoming a manager doesn’t automatically guarantee that skill. The best coaches develop a culture of excellence, self-development, and accountability. How? Building trust, appreciating differences, encouraging growth, providing constructive criticism, and overcoming roadblocks to goal achievement are all part of the process. This program will help managers build engaged, results-oriented teams. [Click here](#) to view the brochure; [click here](#) to register. For more information, please contact Christine Prestiano at (203) 294-7257 or [prestiano@chime.org](mailto:prestiano@chime.org).

**Laying the Quality Foundation on Thursday, November 11, 8:30-noon**

With the demands of healthcare reform becoming clearer each day—now more than ever, **everyone** must be involved in quality improvement and patient safety. This foundational course is designed to provide all hospital administrative, operational, and new clinical staff with the practical knowledge and operational tips they need to build and sustain a culture of quality and patient safety. [Click here](#) to view the brochure; [click here](#) to register.

**From Difficult to Dynamic: Engaging Our Most Challenging Employees on Friday, November 12, 8:30-2:30 p.m.**

Managing staff to achieve organizational goals is a basic responsibility for all leaders. It is a particularly difficult challenge with employees who demonstrate negative, unproductive behaviors that consume hours of a supervisor’s time and energy, and prevent a team from achieving high performance. Joan Evans, a highly respected presenter in CHA’s management and leadership development series, returns to present this practical and interactive program. [Click here](#) to view the brochure; [click here](#) to register.