

Governor Tom Corbett Visits Phoebe Ministries During Alzheimer's Awareness Month

Governor Tom Corbett visited Phoebe Ministries in November to thank the Pennsylvania Alzheimer's Disease State Planning Committee. Corbett toured the Allentown campus with Kelly O'Shea Carney, Ph.D., CMC, along with Secretary of Aging Brian Duke, chair of the Pennsylvania Alzheimer's Disease Planning Committee. He then addressed the members of the Planning Committee, thanking them for their hard work in creating a state plan to focus on the growing number of those affected by Alzheimer's and other related dementias in Pennsylvania.

Representatives from the Alzheimer's Disease Planning Commission, United Way of the Lehigh Valley, Pennsylvania Council on Aging and the AARP of Pennsylvania and local Area Agencies on Aging were also in attendance. Senator Bob Mensch, (R-24); Senator Pat Browne, (R-16); Representative Hal English, (R-30); Representative Ryan Mackenzie, (R-134); Representative Mike Schlossberg, (D-132); and Representative Steve Samuelson, (D-135), all attended the event.

Dr. Kelly O'Shea Carney, Executive Director for the Phoebe Center for Excellence in Dementia Care, was distinctly honored by Corbett and is one of only 17 people appointed to the Pennsylvania Alzheimer's Disease State Planning Committee, which was established through an Executive Order by Corbett in February to create a state plan to address the Alzheimer's disease crisis in Pennsylvania.

"As an organization committed to the well-being and support of those affected by dementia, we applaud the vision and compassion that prompted Governor Corbett's executive order forming the Pennsylvania Alzheimer's Disease planning committee," commented Dr. Carney during the Governor's visit. "This committee is actively incorporating many of the values articulated in the Phoebe philosophy of dementia care and the vision for the plan that is emerging is sure to enhance the lives of Pennsylvanians affected by dementia."

Corbett proclaimed November as Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month and added, "Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month offers an opportunity to learn more about this disease and how it touches the lives of so many Pennsylvanians."



Dr. Kelly O'Shea Carney addresses the importance of the state Alzheimer's plan while Governor Tom Corbett and other dignitaries look on.



Lisa Fichera, Chief Operating Officer, Sandy Massetti, Chief Healthcare Officer and Scott Stevenson, President and CEO of Phoebe Ministries, greet Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett (center) and Secretary of Aging Brian Duke (right).