



New York State Association of
Health Care Providers, Inc.

99 Troy Road, Suite 200
East Greenbush, NY 12061
www.nyshcp.org
hcp@nyshcp.org
518/463-1118
fax 518/463-1606

Representing home care and related services since 1974.

Phyllis A. Wang, *President*

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Paula Reichel
Community Health Center
Chairperson

Bader Reynolds
CareGivers
Executive Vice Chairperson

Annette Horvath
Village Care of New York
Vice Chairperson, CHHA

Karen Dargo
All Metro Health Care
Vice Chairperson, LHCSA

Wendy Blum
Independent Health Care Svcs., Inc.
*Vice Chairperson, LTHHCP/
Central New York Chapter*

Carol Mahoney
HomeCare & Hospice
Vice Chairperson, Hospice

Susan Bayerl
People HHC Services, Inc.
Treasurer

Deborah Phaff
Gentiva Health Services
Secretary

Kathleen Lonergan
Sterling Home Care
HRO Representative

Margaret McDowell
Bermac Home Aides, Inc.
Hudson Valley Chapter

Mary Winters
RegionCare, Inc.
Long Island Chapter

Bader Reynolds
CareGivers
Mohawk Valley Chapter

Jordan Shames
Neighbors Home Care
New York City Chapter

Jacqueline Marcelle
Home Health Care Partners, Inc.
Northeastern New York Chapter

Ron Janiszewski
Niagara Hospice, Inc.
Western New York Chapter

Amy Leshner Thomas
Fedcap Home Care Services
CHCS Foundation Chairperson

Robert Callaghan
New York Nursing Care, Inc.
Immediate Past Chairperson

April 15, 2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Richard Landers
518/463-1118 ext. 812
landers@nyshcp.org

Julie Tighe
518/463-1118 ext. 818
tighe@nyshcp.org

NYS SENATOR FLANAGAN PARTICIPATES IN SMITHTOWN HOME CARE VISIT

Visit Demonstrates Importance of State's Private Duty Nursing Program

SMITHTOWN—Anne Johanson, a bed bound patient with multiple sclerosis (MS) who needs significant nursing assistance to remain at home, was visited Thursday by New York State Senator John J. Flanagan (R,C-East Northport). Senator Flanagan came to Ms. Johanson's Smithtown home to learn more about the high-tech nursing services she receives through New York's Medicaid Private Duty Nursing program.

Ms. Johanson's condition (she has a tracheostomy and is on a ventilator) requires her to have nursing care twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. Since 2000, the Babylon branch of All Metro Health Care has provided nurses who have taken care of Ms. Johanson with state-of-the-art high-tech care, enabling her to live at home and her family to maintain their daily routines.

New York's Medicaid Private Duty Nursing program provides cost-effective services for severely disabled children and adults, many of whom are reliant on high-tech equipment to survive. Private duty nurses provide complex and technical care such as wound and tracheotomy care to their patients to help prevent more serious illnesses in addition to providing assistance with daily living. Many patients are able to maintain employment, homes and social lives with the assistance of skilled nursing services. This program helps patients to remain in their communities with their families.

Senator Flanagan said, "The Medicaid Private Duty Nursing program is a great resource for people who need a high-level of care and would prefer to remain in their own home. After all, most people want to stay in their home for as long as possible and, more and more, doctors are telling people that the best place to receive continued care is in the comfort of their own home."

"We have seen how successful this program can be for our patients by allowing them to remain at home with their families rather than being forced into more restrictive and more costly institutionalized and impersonal settings," said Amy Carroll, Suffolk County Branch Manager for All Metro.

"We in home care and skilled nursing are part of what enable clients to live as full a life as possible," according to Sheryl Guillot, RN for All Metro and one of Ms. Johanson's nurses. Ms. Johanson's husband, William Johanson, said, "I'm glad Senator Flanagan came down to see how important Private Duty Nursing is to my family. Anne should be at home with the proper care and home nursing allows her to be an active part of the family."

Without the nursing care the All Metro nurses provide through the high-tech Private Duty Nursing program, Ms. Johanson would need to be cared for in an institutional setting, away from her home and family. The nursing care provided to Ms. Johanson also allows her husband to continue to work.

All Metro Health Care is one of the oldest and largest regional health care providers in New York and has been providing quality home health care services for fifty years. All Metro is licensed by the Department of Health and JCAHO accredited. All Metro specializes in high-tech skilled nursing services and have unique programs dedicated to pediatric, ventilator dependent, and traumatic brain injury patients.

Senator Flanagan's visit was arranged by the New York State Association of Health Care Providers, Inc. (HCP), a statewide trade association representing the full spectrum of home care and hospice agencies in New York.

-30-

Note: High-resolution photos of this event are available for download at www.nyshcp.org/press.