

AJAS Receives Congressional Support to Design Medicaid Care Coordination Model

AJAS last month received unanimous support from U.S. congressional representatives to proceed with a pilot project to develop and implement a new Medicaid Care Coordination Model to improve management and quality of services for the elderly and save Medicaid dollars.

AJAS's Public Policy Legislative Group will design a comprehensive care coordination system that eliminates duplication, streamlines care, improves outcomes and reduces per capita spending in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and California. The pilot will establish process and quality/financial metrics to measure project success. Results will be reported to the U.S. Senate Finance Committee in one year.

The support came following two very successful discussions AJAS members had in Washington, D.C., on May 15, 2018, with staff from the Senate Finance Committee, chaired by Sen. Orrin Hatch (R-Utah). AJAS also met with Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio), who is a member of the Senate Finance Committee.

The first session with Sen. Hatch's staff focused on community-based services provided by AJAS member facilities for the elderly on Medicaid. It was held at the request of Senate Finance Committee staff following briefings AJAS held in Washington in March.

In the meeting with Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio), AJAS covered good and bad aspects of current managed care Medicaid programs in New York, California and Ohio, and highlighted some very successful programs AJAS members are doing to improve care coordination for seniors.

AJAS members attending the sessions on Capitol Hill:

- Jeff Farber, President and CEO, New Jewish Home
- Molly Forrest, CEO and President, Los Angeles Jewish Home
- Elliot Hagler, Chief Financial Officer, New Jewish Home
- Jim Newbrough, President, Menorah Park for Senior Living
- Seth Vilensky, President and CEO, Montefiore
- Ken Bravo, board member, Menorah Park for Senior Living