

NEWS RELEASE

Pennsylvania Homecare Association Releases Voter Guide Outlining Candidates' Positions on Senior, Medicare & Medicaid Issues

Lemoyne, Pa. (September 13, 2016) – The 2016 presidential election is one of the most heated in recent history, and here in Pennsylvania there is a very important U.S. Senate race. Plus, all Congressional seats and 25 state senators are up for election. The Pennsylvania Homecare Association (PHA) has released a Voter Guide to help homecare and hospice providers, patients, consumers and employees become better-informed voters this November.

PHA asked the presidential candidates three questions about senior issues, including access to Medicare and Medicaid, and the U.S. Senate, Congressional and state Senate candidates one question. All of the candidates' responses appear in the guide, unedited and as they were submitted.

"It is critically important to learn who the candidates are and what they support, since they will be in the position of making decisions that affect our industry if they are elected," said PHA CEO Vicki Hoak. "And perhaps more importantly, it is vital that we let them know who WE are as the homecare and hospice industry and the challenges and successes we see every day."

The Voter Guide will be distributed to homecare professionals, patients, consumers and families across the state this fall. It is also available for <u>download</u> on the PHA website.

PHA developed the Voter Guide as part of Bring the Vote Home, a national initiative designed to help seniors and people with disabilities register to vote and cast their ballots in the November election. Agencies are conducting voter drives among their staff, patients and consumers. Caregivers are assisting patients and their families register to vote or apply for absentee ballots. As part of the initiative, PHA is also holding Homecare Political Forums with candidates for open Congressional seats. <u>Click here</u> to learn more about Bring the Vote Home Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania's homecare community brings care and services into the homes of more than 575,000 seniors and people with disabilities – a number that is growing each year as people live longer. Homecare is a lifeline, providing everything from medical care to assistance with activities of daily living like bathing and grooming. And now, homecare will provide a voice to these patients and consumers.

About PHA... The Pennsylvania Homecare Association is a statewide organization of more than 700 homecare and hospice providers. PHA members provide quality care and serve as advocates for their patients and clients on a variety of healthcare related issues. PHA and its members work hard to improve professional standards and ensure access to quality homecare throughout the Commonwealth. To learn more, visit <u>nnw.pahomecare.org</u>.

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