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2015 New Hampshire Legislative and Business Breakfast



(L-R) Tess Stack Kuenning, Sen. Chuck Morse, Rep. Neal Kurk, Sen. Jeanie Forrester, and Kristine E. Stoddard

CONCORD, NH – February 4, 2015 -- Nearly two-hundred lawmakers and business leaders attended Bi-State’s 2015 Legislative and Business Breakfast on February 4 in Concord. This annual meeting focuses policymakers’ attention on the health care needs of their constituents, and the accessibility and affordability of primary health care services. Guest speakers included Executive Councilor Colin Van Ostern, Sen. Jeanie Forrester, and Rep. Neal Kurk. Tess Stack Kuenning, CNS, MS, RN, Bi-State’s president and CEO, and Kristine E. Stoddard, Esq., director of NH Public Policy, led the meeting.

Bi-State supports reauthorization of the New Hampshire Health Protection Plan. Without reauthorization, 37,000 residents will lose their health insurance immediately.

Guest speaker Executive Councilor Colin Van Ostern spoke of his support of the Community Health Centers and the services they provide statewide. He lauded the NH Health Protection Program as a bi-partisan plan that has produced a “tremendous positive change in health care.”



Councilor Van Ostern

“The New Hampshire Health Protection Program gives Granite Staters a hand up, not a hand out,” said Tess Stack Kuenning. “This important legislation moves our state forward as it improves the health of our workforce and ultimately, our economy.”

Sen. Jeanie Forrester, chair of the Senate Finance Committee, and Rep. Neal Kurk, chair of House Finance, said they want “folks to get well” and “programs that work” to improve health. The Community Health Center model of care has a proven, 50-year track record reporting on patient health outcomes on an annual basis. In December 2014, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recognized New Hampshire as the “only state in the country where all of the Community Health Centers rank in the Top 30 percent for high-quality patient health outcomes.”

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