

# **Patrick Murphy and Allyson Schwartz Secure Funding to Keep Health Quality Partners Running**

*Reps Successfully Fight Decision that Would Have Closed Program that Provides High Quality Care to Southeastern PA Seniors*

(Doylestown, PA) – Today, Pennsylvania Congressman Patrick Murphy (D-8<sup>th</sup> District) and Congresswoman Allyson Schwartz (D-13<sup>th</sup> District) announced a temporary extension of the Health Quality Partners program in Doylestown, having negotiated the changes with Medicare representatives who had planned to discontinue the program next month. Since 2002, HQP has participated in a Medicare Demonstration Program, enrolling seniors with multiple chronic conditions and showing that carefully coordinating their care leads to healthier outcomes and lower medical costs. Medicare was planning to terminate the program, which would have led to approximately one thousand seniors losing the high quality medical care they get through the program, as well as the loss of several physicians, nurses, and support staff positions.

Reps. Murphy and Schwartz joined together to work with Medicare to secure a temporary extension for HQP while the two parties work out a permanent solution. They strongly support the work of HQP and have highlighted the program as an excellent model for coordinated care programs nationwide.

**“Health Quality Partners has been a leader in providing outstanding, cost-effective care to chronically-ill seniors in Bucks County,” said Rep. Patrick Murphy. “I have received dozens of calls and letters from people in the program telling me how much this program has helped them remain healthy and avoid hospitalization, and I’m glad that that Congresswoman Schwartz and I were able to work with Medicare to extend their demonstration program and ensure seniors can continue to receive top-notch care.”**

**“Patients with multiple chronic conditions benefit tremendously from continuous care coordination,” U.S. Rep. Allyson Schwartz said. “Health Quality Partners provides an essential service by improving health outcomes and reducing hospital admissions. I have heard from hundreds of my constituents about how important this service is to them and their families, and I have introduced legislation to replicate their successful model nationwide. Congressman Murphy and I will continue to work together to ensure that HQP can continue providing vital health care services to southeastern Pennsylvania residents.”**

**“Congressman Murphy and Congresswoman Schwartz fought tirelessly to ensure that HQP could continue running and serving Pennsylvania seniors, many of whom suffer from serious, multiple chronic conditions,” said Dr. Kenneth Coburn, CEO and Medical Director of HQP. “This will give us time to work out a permanent solution with Medicare, based on solid evidence of what works, while keeping our dedicated staff employed, and our seniors healthy and out of the hospital.”**

*Health Quality Partners (HQP) is a not-for-profit health care quality research and development organization dedicated to improving population health outcomes through health system redesign and advanced care coordination. HQP has developed an effective community-based model of advanced care management that improves health outcomes, longevity, and costs for chronically ill Medicare beneficiaries and that works with primary care offices of all sizes and types.*

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