Sample Thank You Letter for Legislators

I want to extend a sincere thank you to you for supporting caregivers and seniors in the 2013 Legislative Session. The 2013 Legislative Session began with long-term care being a bi-partisan effort and we have succeeded in securing increases for long-term care because legislators put their commitment behind caregivers. We appreciate the efforts of the legislature to include much-needed funding for senior care providers.

For nursing homes, the bill includes an average 5% increase in FY2014. This is a very welcome and needed increase and we thank you for that. This infusion of new funding into nursing homes will help provide well-deserved wage increases for caregivers and will help support quality care for our seniors.

For Elderly Waiver, the bill included the repeal of the 1.67% contingent rate cut, which was a vital top priority for waivered service providers. The bill also includes a 1% increase available on April 1, 2014 and an increase based on quality, available in July, 2015. This will be the first funding increase for Elderly Waiver providers in the past five years. There will be significant work ahead as we look forward to working with the Department of Human Services and lawmakers to develop the tools used to measure quality for home and community based services.

Overall, we believe this bill is a good step in the right direction.  As the economy improves, we look forward to additional conversations with you and will continue to seek opportunities for additional progress towards sustainable funding for our long-term care continuum, which includes nursing homes and Elderly Waiver providers.

After you catch up on your sleep and have time, we would appreciate you coming out to visit. Our staff and residents always enjoy visits from lawmakers, it gives them a chance to show you the hard work they do and the residents like to discuss the issues of the day.

Please keep our continued needs in mind as the summer moves forward.

Sincerely,