

Home Care Alliance of
Massachusetts
www.thinkhomecare.org



31 St. James Ave., Suite 780
Boston, MA 02116
617-482-8830

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: James Fuccione
617-482-8830
jfuccione@hcalliancema.org

Caregiver Homes of MA Wins Pioneer Institute Award

Home Care Alliance Member Named Winner of the Better Government Competition

Boston, MA – Caregiver Homes of Massachusetts, Inc., a subsidiary of Seniorlink, Inc. and an allied member of the Home Care Alliance has won the Pioneer Institute’s 2009 Better Government Competition meant to showcase innovative ideas and programs to improve the efficiency of government.

The competition’s theme this year was health care, and the nursing home diversion program administered by Caregiver Homes came out on top out of 150 applicants.

“We are proud that Caregiver Homes has won the Better Government Competition and hope it is a clear sign to policymakers, especially in this time of reform, that home health care is a way to cut costs while improving the quality of care,” said Home Care Alliance Executive Director Patricia Kelleher.

According to Caregiver Homes, the nursing home diversion program has saved Massachusetts Medicaid approximately \$15.9 million since its inception. The program itself places elders or adults with disabilities who qualify for nursing home placement in the private home of a caregiver.

According to the Pioneer Institute, the concept wraps intensive assessments of the total health and social strengths and weaknesses of each elder, the suitability of the intended home setting and appropriate consideration of the potential caregiver. The program also involves a custom web-based case records system where family and non-family caregivers can enter a comprehensive “Daily Note” that describes the patient’s “health, social status, and provides a wealth of data and information about the program and client outcomes,” according to Seniorlink. The company also reports that this special program has provided clients with 183,000 service days at less than half the cost that Medicaid would have paid for traditional nursing home care.

Dr. Mark McClellan, former administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and former commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, was the guest speaker at an awards dinner where CEO Byron Hensley accepted the Award on Seniorlink’s behalf on Wednesday, September 16.

About the Home Care Alliance:

With a mission to unite people and organizations to advance community health through care and services in the home, the Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts is a non-profit trade association and advocacy group providing representation, education, communication, advocacy and – ultimately – a voice for the state’s home health industry. Founded in 1969, the Alliance is celebrating its 40th year in existence. To learn more, visit www.thinkhomecare.org.

###