

“Governor Christie has transcended politics and created a bipartisan spirit around a very troublesome issue, addiction, which offers hope and confidence to the residents of our state.”

Wednesday, January 11, 2017 Tags: [Addiction Taskforce](#)



Carrier Clinic President & CEO Donald J. Parker: “Governor Christie has transcended politics and created a bipartisan spirit around a very troublesome issue, addiction, which offers hope and confidence to the residents of our state. I felt like I was sitting before the Governor during the aftermath of Sandy, when he focused with determination on a recovery plan for New Jersey. We’re in the same situation with the addiction epidemic. Governor Christie again has precise objectives and achievable plans to reverse the dangers facing families throughout New Jersey and our nation. We know prevention works. We know treatment works. Getting workable solutions that can be taken advantage of by all of our citizens has been the challenge. Having Governor Christie talk about it, without judgment or stigma, and propose programs that work makes it more likely that the actions we take will save lives across our state and across the nation.” (Statement, 1/10/17)

Assembly Minority Leader Jon Bramnick: “I think he showed his humanity, his concern for fellow man and, based on all of the negative press he has gotten over the last couple of years, I think that turned the tide making him, let’s say, more real for people. That’s the person I know, so I’m really happy that he showed that humanity, which I believe he always had.” (Interview, NJTV, 1/11/17)

Senator Steve Oroho: “Governor Christie spent the greatest time in his State of the State speech on a matter for which he is certainly a passionate advocate – the prevention and treatment of opioid addiction,” Oroho said via an emailed statement. “This issue affects so many families, and destroys too many lives, so I join him in trying to do all we can to prevent further tragedies and pain.” (David Danzis, Christie targets drug epidemic in final address, New Jersey Herald, 1/11/17)

Senator Anthony Bucco: “Addiction has been an issue that’s been pushed into the shadows for far too long, and I’m glad the Governor is making it a top priority in his last year in office.” (Press Release, 1/11/17)

Senator Ray Lesniak: “I think it was Gov. Christie’s finest moment. I’ve been fighting this battle of drug addiction for over 10 years now, reducing prison sentences so people could get treatment for their drug addiction and starting a recovery school. He has identified a very, very serious problem and offered solutions to that.” (Interview, NJTV, 1/11/17)

Assemblywoman Patricia Egan Jones: “I applaud the Governor taking on the horrible crisis of addiction in our state and nation.” (Tweet, 1/10/17)

Assemblyman Jerry Green: “For someone who was born and raised in an urban atmosphere, I’ve seen it all. So I’m happy that the governor is smart enough to recognize that we do have a problem.” (Press Conference, 1/10/17)

Assemblyman Vince Mazzeo: “I think Gov. Christie hit on everything we’ve been working on in Atlantic County. There’s a lot of work to be done. I heard about the five-step plan that he had. It’s terrific.” (Christian Hetrick, Christie focuses on drug addiction in State of the State speech, Press of AC, 1/11/17)

Assemblyman Parker Space: “I look forward to working with the governor and other members of the Legislature on all of the issues of vital importance to our residents, especially on opioid addiction, which I applaud his dedication on.” (David Danzis, Christie targets drug epidemic in final address, New Jersey Herald, 1/11/17)

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Point Pleasant Beach Mayor Stephen Reid: "What Governor Christie did during the State of the State address today was to truly highlight the disease of addiction; a disease that is quite often kept hidden away. By bringing it into the light we, as a community, move closer to engaging the problem and getting the proper care for those whom are afflicted. Today was a major step towards the right direction." (Statement, 1/10/17)

Seaside Park Mayor Robert Matthies: "No one should ever challenge the Governor's sincerity and commitment to address and drive home awareness of the heroin epidemic that confronts all of us in NJ. His first hand knowledge amplified in his State of the State address specifically demonstrates the far reaching affect it has on our society. His words left little doubt that this Governor is a man of action who brought us back from the the disaster caused by super storm Sandy, met other challenges head on and now is alerting us to the disastrous impact that the heroin epidemic already has on us and offers a strategy to fought its advancement while saving lives as it's carried out." (Statement, 1/11/17)

Patty DiRenzo, Championed The Overdose Prevention Act: "The one-stop website and hotline he proposed, I can't wait to start telling people about that," (Phaedra Trethan, South Jersey advocates give mixed reaction to Christie speech, Courier Post, 1/10/17)

"I praise him for making so much of his speech about this issue."

Lou Cappelli Jr., Camden County Freeholder Director : "We are taking a holistic approach to battling this epidemic." (Phaedra Trethan, South Jersey advocates give mixed reaction to Christie speech, Courier Post, 1/10/17)

"We do not want to continue to witness the ongoing carnage that families throughout the county are going through on a regular basis."

Phillip Lubitz, Associate Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness-N.J.: "The Governor gave an extraordinary State of the State speech today, speaking from his better angel to lay out a lasting legacy for his time in office." (Susan Livio, What they said about Christie's State of the State speech, Star-Ledger, 1/10/17)

Kevin Riordan, Columnist, Philadelphia Inquirer: "As a person in recovery, I'm grateful to the governor for what is clearly also a deeply personal and not merely political, commitment." (Kevin Riordan, As a person in recovery, I'm grateful to the governor, Philadelphia Inquirer, 1/10/17)

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