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Gov. Christie: The Job You Have Done For the State's Most Vulnerable Has Truly Been Transformative

Friday, March 24, 2017

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Gov. Christie: The Job You Have Done For the State's Most Vulner...

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Transcript:

Governor Christie: You all need to know that this all, this idea of being here today just came out of me watching your work over the last seven years. As you know I inherited this settlement from the last administration and so it was an education process for me first with Commissioner Velez about how this was so important, how we might be able to accomplish it, what were the support and resources she needed from me but first she had to convince me it was the right thing and she did, and Commissioner Connolly has continued that commitment. And so when I got the word that we were accomplishing what we've accomplished what I said to my Chief of Staff was I want to go over to Human Services and thank them myself. I didn't want to send you some form letter. I didn't want to put out some press release that told you in some general flowery terms about the wonderful job you did. I wanted to look all of you, as many as we could get in a room at one time, in the eye and just say thank you to you. The job you have done has truly been transformative. I can't thank you enough for the work you've done, for the goals you've accomplished and for the path you've set for the next person who comes into this job. We've established our record in dealing with the most vulnerable in this society and we should be very proud of it but that record and looking in the rearview mirror at it means very little if we don't use it as the course that we set for the future. Your work has placed the challenge before the new administration that will come next January, how will you make it better, how will you help the most vulnerable, how will you give meaning to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for every person in our state no matter their challenge? So you can take a bit of a deep breath on this part of it but use this as the diving board, the launching off point to how we're going to go even more forward for the people that we serve. If you do that then this was a

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significant but just another important step in accomplishing what we need to accomplish for the people that we serve.
And no one wants to come to work every day without a challenge.

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