

Governor Quinn Visits Norwegian American Hospital



From left to right: Damon T. Arnold, M.D., Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health; Governor Pat Quinn; Tim Egan, Executive Director of the Norwegian American Hospital Foundation; Duane J. Fitch, Chief Financial Officer for Norwegian American Hospital; and Raghu Ramadurai, M.D., Medical Staff President for Norwegian American Hospital

On Saturday, November 21, 2009, Governor Pat Quinn visited Norwegian American Hospital to sign the executive order that establishes a new office for a state Public Health Advocate. The Public Health Advocate will be responsible for developing and leading wellness programs to improve public health, as well as help people fight common chronic diseases, such as diabetes.

With diabetes as a growing concern in our community and all over the country, it is Norwegian's ongoing goal to provide preventive and continual management of care for all patients who come through our doors.

"If current trends continue, one out of every three children could face a future with diabetes," said Governor Quinn. "It is critical that our families have access to important information that will educate them about diseases and prevention options."

Norwegian American Hospital was prominently represented at the signing of the executive order by members of the board of trustees, as well as Norwegian American Hospital administrators. Politicians present included: Governor Pat Quinn; Illinois Department of Public Health Director Damon T. Arnold, M.D.; State Senator William Delgado; and Jaime Delgado, Chairman of the Humboldt Park Diabetes Task Force.

While Governor Quinn was at Norwegian American Hospital, he had the chance to visit the hospital's Pediatric Care-A-Van and took the time to review the display board that discusses Northwestern University's Family Medicine Residency Program with Norwegian.

At the signing, Governor Quinn was also presented with a certificate that honors him as a lifelong, honorary board member of the **Norwegian American Hospital Foundation.**