



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

David Carlucci

## Senator David Carlucci on New Hospital Pilot Program, After Spearheading Effort

SENATOR DAVID CARLUCCI May 20, 2020

| ISSUE: **CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC; COVID-19; HOSPITALS; FAMILIES**



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*Countless residents in Rockland and Westchester Counties could not be with a family member during their final moments because of COVID-19, and it caused unimaginable grief. Many families just wanted a way to connect with their loved one through a phone or tablet, and some sadly told me it never happened. Working with families and fellow lawmakers, we spearheaded the effort for a compassionate volunteer program at New York hospitals to ease*

*the burden on hospital staff and ensure more families did not have to suffer. I thank the Healthcare Association of New York State and Greater New York Hospitals Association for hearing our concerns and implementing a pilot program to allow family members to visit under strict precautions. Every patient needs someone to help lift their spirits, reduce anxiety, and help with basic needs."*