

## Rothman Tours Adler Aphasia Center In Maywood To Promote Awareness of Disorder

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To Promote Awareness of Disorder  
Visits Center on Aphasia Awareness Day; Congressman Pledges to  
Continue His Efforts Fighting For More Federal Funding For Disorder Research

Maywood, NJ - As part of Aphasia Awareness Day, designed to draw attention to the need for treatment and research on the brain impairment that limits communication, Congressman Steve Rothman (D-Fair Lawn) today toured the Adler Aphasia Center in Maywood. Rothman praised Mike and Elaine Adler for founding the facility, which provides a place for those with aphasia, their loved ones, and caregivers to receive support, care and encouragement as well as meaningful programs and activities. The Congressman pledged to continue his efforts in Congress to increase funding for treatment and research of aphasia and all other medical disorders.

"As a lifelong friend of the Adlers, I know the difficulty they have experienced in dealing with Mike's stroke and subsequent aphasia. That challenge has enabled them to become stronger and motivated them to create a place where people with aphasia and their family members can come to feel comfortable in their surroundings and enrich their lives," Rothman said. "Mike and Elaine, who founded and own a successful mail order company with 1,000 employees around the world, are extraordinary philanthropists who support a wide range of causes from a local cancer support group, to Ramapo College, to various Jewish organizations. They can add the establishment of the Adler Aphasia Center to their long and impressive list of achievements and successes in life. I commend them for their vision, hard work, and generosity that created this special place."

Aphasia is a defect or loss in the ability to comprehend or express words. It is estimated that about 1 million people in the United States have aphasia. For the majority of those impaired by aphasia the disorder is caused by stroke, while approximately one-third of aphasia cases are brought on by a severe head injury. There is yet no cure for aphasia, and therapy to establish the most effective means of communication, depending upon the severity of impairment, is often considered the best treatment.

"Throughout my seven and a half years in Congress, fighting for better health care has remained one of my top priorities," Rothman said. "As a member of the House Appropriations Committee, I have had the honor of supporting programs that promote scientific research and medical training, which are critical to finding treatments, cures, and preventive efforts against disorders like aphasia. The federal government needs to invest more than the approximate \$12 million it currently spends at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) on aphasia research in order to treat this disorder."

Those interested in learning more about the Adler Aphasia Center are encouraged to call 201-368-8585, or visit the organization's website at [www.adleraphasiacenter.org](http://www.adleraphasiacenter.org).

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[Go back](#)