

# Low Nursing Rates Risk Patient Safety and Health



**Florida home care private duty nursing (PDN) providers have not had a Medicaid rate increase in 28 years.** This, coupled with the on-going workforce crisis, has created an environment where providers cannot compete to attract and retain highly qualified nurses, resulting in access to care issues for medically fragile adults, children, and their families throughout the state.

**OUR ASK:** Support increasing the PDN fee-for-service (FSS) rate to \$50 an hour for RNs and LPNs or \$36 million AND ensure Medicaid Managed Care plans pass that increase to providers so they can recruit and retain quality nurses.

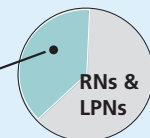
**CURRENT FFS RATES:** RN = \$30.60/hour and LPN \$25.40/hour

## Providers Cannot Attract Qualified RNs and LPNs Due to Wage Disparity

Florida home care providers can only attract 30% of available nurses. Home care loses many qualified staff to hospitals and nursing homes that are offering up to

**\$25,000 sign-on bonuses.**

**30%**



## Nursing Shortage = Delayed start of care

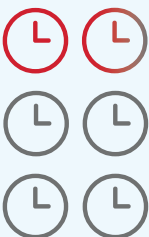
The vast majority of delayed discharges are due to the home care nurse shortage. **Delayed discharges cost the state money** and prevent medically fragile children & adults from receiving care where they want — **in their homes.**<sup>1</sup>



1. Home Health Care Availability and Discharge Delays in Children with Medical Complexity. Pediatrics. 2019;143(1)

## Not Enough Nurses to Fill Hours

On average, BAYADA offices cannot fill **500** of their weekly scheduled hours, leaving an annual deficit of **26,000** hours of care.



## Unintended Consequences of Unfilled Hours



### Increases in:

- Avoidable hospitalizations and re-admissions
- ER visits
- Call outs of family members who can't go to work
- Caregiver stress
- Interruption of services



### Decreases in:

- Necessary care that keeps patients safe, healthy, and at home
- Family income and jobs
- Quality of life

**Help remove bureaucratic red tape and increase access to home care by supporting SB 686 and B 871, which define the terms of PDN and eliminate confusion by differentiating these services from the Medicare home health visits.**

**THANK YOU TO BILL SPONSORS SENATOR YARBOROUGH AND REPRESENTATIVE KOSTER**

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**Hearts for Home Care**  
A BAYADA Community Supporting Quality Care at Home