Low In-Home Medicaid Nursing and Personal Care Rates Risk Patient Health and Result in Higher Costs to the State

South Carolina In-Home Care Providers cannot compete to attract and retain qualified nurses and personal care aides, resulting in higher healthcare costs and access to care barriers for over 40,000 vulnerable seniors and medically fragile children and adults. Investing \$30.5M for home and community based services as requested by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)¹ will allow in-home care providers to compete for qualified healthcare professionals.

Staffing shortage = Increased Healthcare Costs

The struggle for in-home care providers to recruit and retain workers has been a long-standing challenge that continues to worsen. The result is **increased costs to the state** and preventing medically fragile children and adults unable to receive care in their preferred setting – at home.

Cost of 1 week of ICU care = 10 weeks of home care





550

949

\$20

\$23.50

Home

Nurse

South Carolina

• Because workers can earn higher wages by working in sister states or more costly settings the average industry turn over rate = $65\%^2$



 Providers have had to decline 58% of all home care referrals3



Projected Nursing Shortage in

Hospital

Nurse

By 2030, South Carolina is projected to have the **4th largest nursing shortage** in the country.

In Home Care Rate Disparity Has Created **Workforce Challenges** for providers in today's

market. Providers are only able to compete for

40% of Personal Care Aides.4

\$49.99

less than 30% of Registered Nurses and

Hourly Wage Disparity⁵

\$10.17

Home

This shortage will particularly impact home care providers, who already struggle to recruit nurses due to low reimbursement rates.



\$16.82

Hospital

Aide

Consequences of In-Home Care Staffing Challenges:



Increases In:

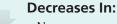


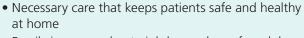
• Risk of hospitalization, ER visits, and re-hospitalizations • Family caregivers calling out of work and risking job loss



• Longer hospital stays due to lack of staff available to transition home









• Family income – due to job loss or loss of work hours

\$30.5M so in-home care providers can recruit and

retain more nurses and personal care assistants.



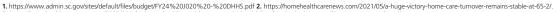
• Bonding time between family members

Continuity of Care

Our Ask: Support HHS budget request of

Increase **Nursing Rates for** RNs to **\$45** and LPNs to **\$45**

Increase Personal Care to \$25 for PCI, PC II and Attendant Care, Companion, and Respite Care.



3. https://homehealthcarenews.com/2022/02/why-home-health-providers-are-producing-high-referral-rejection-rates/itm_source=parsely-api? itm_campaign=parsely_recommended_widget-2&itm_medium=site_widget&itm_source=parsely_recommended_widget&itm_content=widget_item-1 4. https://www.careerbuilder.com 5. https://www.bls.gov/oes/ 6. https://bhw.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/bureau-health-workforce/data-research/nchwa-hrsa-nursing-report.pdf

