

# Increase Medicaid In-home Nursing Rates to Protect Access to Care



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

## Who receives care from the Medicaid Private Duty Nursing (PDN) program?

- A small group of medically fragile, acutely ill North Carolinians who require physician ordered, one-on-one nursing care to stay safely at home
- In 2020, approximately 1,804 individuals state-wide, of which half are children
- Recipients coping with a traumatic brain injury, or are ventilator and tracheostomy dependent requiring hands-on nursing interventions

## Annual nursing costs by setting:

In-home nursing saves the State \$78,000 – \$193,000 per year, per recipient.



In-home nursing

**\$118,178<sup>3</sup>**



Skilled nursing facilities –  
specialty ventilator beds

**\$196,797<sup>4</sup>**



Long-term care  
hospitals (LTCH)

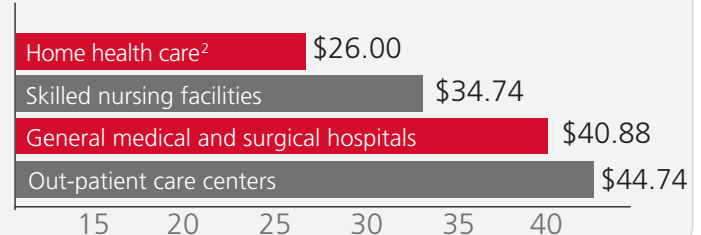
**\$311,674<sup>5</sup>**

## Benefits of increasing the Medicaid PDN rate for in-home nursing

- Clinically complex, medically fragile children and adults can stay in their homes and out of higher-cost settings
- Helps reduce costly hospital re-admissions, ER visits, and secondary infections
- Creates nursing jobs in the community and allows families to continue to work while being a cost-savings to the state
- Lower cost, better outcomes, patient preferred

## Home care nurses are paid less than their counterparts<sup>1</sup>

Due to low Medicaid reimbursement rates, home care agencies can't compete with other health care providers for qualified nurses.



Invest **\$30.9M** = Keeping families together by increasing the Medicaid PDN rate by \$20 an hour



## Medicaid Nursing Reimbursement Rates Don't Match Other Government Payers.

NC Veterans Affairs reimburses \$94-\$124 for the same services.



For more information, contact:

1. Dept. of Labor statistics: <https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes291141.htm>  
2. Derived from home care provider database  
3. 2020 PDN Medicaid utilization data adjusted to account for COVID add-on.  
4. Medicaid Fee Schedule: [https://files.nc.gov/ncdms/documents/files/Vent\\_Fee\\_Schedule\\_2016\\_11\\_16.pdf](https://files.nc.gov/ncdms/documents/files/Vent_Fee_Schedule_2016_11_16.pdf)  
5. See Clinical Policy 2A-2: <https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/>  
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