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

Hearts for **Home Care**

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[3]

Skilled nursing facilities – specialty ventilator beds
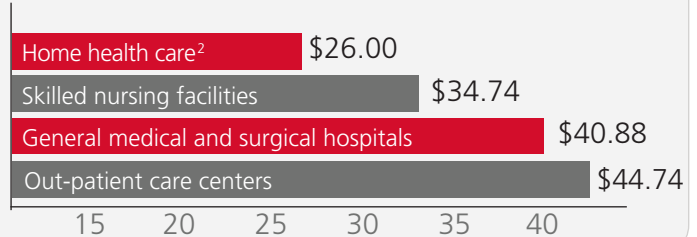**$196,797**[4]

Long-term care hospitals (LTCH)
$311,674[5]

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[1]

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

Setting	Pay
Home health care[2]	$26.00
Skilled nursing facilities	$34.74
General medical and surgical hospitals	$40.88
Out-patient care centers	$44.74

15 20 25 30 35 40

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

BAYADA®

First Choice home care, inc.

MGA HOMECARE

PHC Home Health

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/ncdma/documents/files/Vent_Fee_Schedule_2016_11_16.pdf
5. See Clinical Policy 2A-2: https://medicaid.ncdhhs.gov/