

2024 North Carolina Legislative Priorities

- Invest \$92.6M (\$77.9 and \$14.6) million in state dollars to fund Medicaid reimbursement rate increases for Home and Community Based Service (HCBS) that support more than 52,618 seniors, and children and adults living with disabilities and medical complexities to stay with their families in a lower cost setting – home.
 - Aides INCREASE PERSONAL CARE SERVICE RATES: Invest <u>\$77.9M</u> to increase rates for aide services under four Medicaid programs – Personal Care Services (PCS), Community-Alternative Programs for Disabled Adults (CAP-DA), CAP for Children (CAP-CH), CAP for Consumer Direction (CAP-CD) to \$6.96 per 15-min unit or \$27.84, effective July 1, 2024.
 - Nurses INCREASE PRIVATE DUTY NURSING RATES: Invest <u>\$14.6M</u> to increase rates for registered nurses (RN) and licensed practical nurses (LPN) under Medicaid's Private Duty Nursing (PDN) program and nursing respite under CAP-C to \$16.25 per 15-min unit or \$65.00 per hour, effective July 1, 2024.
- Invest \$30M for Direct Support Professionals Wages- INCREASE INNOVATION WAIVER FUNDING: Appropriate sufficient funds under the Local Management Entities/Managed Care Organizations (LME/MCOs) capitation to increase service rates under Medicaid's Innovations Waiver for services provided by Direct Support Professionals, effective July 1, 2024.
- Maintain Certificate of Need (CON) for Home Health and Hospice services as a mechanism to support access to high-quality, cost-effective care in the home.
- Modernize Advance Health Care Directives S 147 / H 739: Support by-partisan legislation to modernize signature and notary requirements for health care powers of attorney and advance health care directives and support electronic access to these documents. Last session the House passed by-partisan bill last session by 115-1. Seek Senate support to pass this bill in 2024.
- Conduct a comprehensive rate and wage analysis of Medicaid funded long term care services and supports (LTSS). Hundreds of thousands North Carolinians depend on Medicaid-funded nursing facility care, care in adult care homes, and home care. A comprehensive rate strategy is fundamental to addressing both the chronic wage and rate depression and to meet the unprecedented, forecasted growth in these services over the next several decades. Stabilization requires actuarially sound Medicaid rates that allow for market competitive wages. The capacity to provide quality services hinges on a strong and appropriately supported direct care workforce.

To learn more visit <u>www.heartsforhomecare.com</u>

BAYADA Hearts for Home Care Inc. (H4HC) is a community of advocates that believes all individuals have the fundamental right to access quality health care services in their own homes. We believe in empowering our nationwide network of home care advocates through education and engagement. Together, we seek to influence state and federal decision-makers to create policies that support children, adults, seniors, families, and the workforce that makes this care possible.