



## Hearts for Home Care

A BAYADA Community Supporting Quality Care at Home

### Hearts for Home Care Applauds Medicare Home Health Proposal, Calls for Stop to Contradictory CMS Cuts

**PHILADELPHIA, PA**—On behalf of millions of individuals with physical and developmental disabilities that rely on home care to live a safe and independent life, Hearts for Home Care (H4HC)—an advocacy organization dedicated to increasing access to home care services—is encouraged by both major party presidential candidates’ recent proposals to cover more home care services through Medicare.

“We are heartened by the fact that a major party candidate recognizes that home care is the patient-preferred setting for healthcare services—as well as the most cost-effective setting for Medicare,” says H4HC President and Executive Director Dave Totaro. “This is especially timely, as the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) has again proposed cuts to Medicare Home Health funding despite the devastating increase in the home health referral rejection rate<sup>[1]</sup>. We are hopeful that Vice President Harris’s proposal means that the current and future administrations recognize that home health care is the commonsense solution that needs more investment and support—not less.”

Since 2020, CMS has made continuous cuts to home health funding, and this divestment will continue until at least 2028 unless the Administration or Congress acts to stop the cuts. While Hearts for Home Care appreciates the fact that presidential candidates are bringing conversations about the importance of home care accessibility to the forefront of public discourse, the advocacy organization also urges the current administration and leaders to take action now to protect the existing Medicare home health program—including stopping the CMS-initiated Medicare home health cuts.

Hearts for Home Care looks forward to working with the new Presidential administration—regardless of candidate—to further design and implement necessary home care expansion. Hearts for Home Care is committed to being a voice for the nation’s most vulnerable populations, their families, and the in-home caregivers that serve them.

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**About Hearts for Home Care:** BAYADA Hearts for Home Care (H4HC) is a community of likeminded 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, and families that need this care, and recognize and respect the professional caregiving workforce. Our goal is to tell legislators, “Home care is important to me, and it should be important to you too.” To learn more visit [www.heartsforhomecare.com](http://www.heartsforhomecare.com).

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<sup>[1]</sup> A [recent analysis](#) of Medicare home health claims data found that the home health referral rejection rate has increased significantly (from 49% in 2020 to 71% in 2022), which means more patients are forced to stay in the hospital and are not able to move easily from the hospital to their homes.