

# Minnesota Home Care Association

## 2023 Legislative Agenda

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As Approved by the MHCA Board of Directors on October 11, 2022

The MHCA believes that individuals should have access to necessary, cost effective, and evidenced-informed home care services and that the infrastructure for and access to such services be promoted in Minnesota. Accordingly, the MHCA supports and will actively work for legislative, administrative, and other initiatives that will promote the following policies:

**Stabilize the Home Care Access Infrastructure.** Low funding levels for home care services are jeopardizing the sustainability of Minnesota’s infrastructure of services for those individuals who need and want health and long-term care services delivered in their homes. While important steps were taken during past sessions to begin addressing the low reimbursement rates for certain home care services, there remain critical home care services that are significantly underfunded and therefore increasingly challenging for service providers to be able to offer.

***Home Care Services Base Rate Increase.** The MHCA will lead legislative efforts to increase the Medical Assistance base rate for home care services as a critical step to addressing the home care services access barriers currently resulting from severe staff shortages.*

***Un-reimbursed and Under-reimbursed Home Care Services.** The MHCA will lead legislative and non-legislative efforts to address lack of reimbursement for unrecognized but critical Medical Assistance home care services, including care coordination and care evaluations.*

***Homemaker Rate Reimbursement Methodology.** The MHCA will lead both legislative and non-legislative efforts to bring uniformity and sustainability to homemaker rate reimbursement systems to increase access to this vital home care service.*

**Workforce Regulatory Issues.** *The MHCA will collaborate with other stakeholders and applicable state agencies to support efforts to decrease the barriers to entry for home care staff, including background study timely access challenges, DHS timelines for completing staff paperwork, and other barriers to efficient staff onboarding.*

**Personal Care Assistant (PCA) Rate Reimbursement Methodology.** *The MHCA will collaborate with other stakeholders and applicable state agencies to support efforts to fully fund the PCA rate setting methodology established in 2020 to create sustainable reimbursement rates for Medical Assistance PCA services.*

**Engage in Other Home Care Issues.** Many known and unknown issues of interest to MHCA members could be brought forward in 2023.

*The MHCA will engage on issues as necessary to ensure a strong and viable home care system in Minnesota. This would include monitoring and engaging issues impacting Home Care in Minnesota.*