

# CAREGIVERS ARE UNDERPAID & UNDERVALUED



CAREGIVERS DO SOME OF THE MOST CHALLENGING WORK HUMANS CAN BE ASKED TO DO. THEY CARE FOR THE *ELDERLY, SICK, DYING AND DISABLED*, BUT, WE PAY THEM LESS THAN NEARLY ALL OTHER PROFESSIONS.

**\$19,100**

MEDIAN ANNUAL CAREGIVER WAGE IN 2022

**50%**

OF DIRECT CARE WORKERS REQUIRE PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

**85%**

OF IN HOME CARE WORKERS ARE WOMEN

## WHY SHOULD YOU CARE?

### A DIRE NEED

Thousands of NH residents are in need of care in their homes.

### AN AGING POPULATION

By 2035, the population of 85+ year olds is expected to double.

### NOT ENOUGH CAREGIVERS

599,800 projected caregiver openings each year, on average.

## CARE OPTIONS ARE COSTLY

### Nursing Home Care

Averaging \$7,756 per month for a semi-private room.

### Private In-Home Care

An alternative is to pay for private care in your home, which can cost hundreds of dollars a day.

### Choices for Independence

An option for those who require nursing home level needs and qualify for long term care Medicaid. Currently, this program is poorly funded and on the verge of collapse.

# Caregivers are Underpaid and Undervalued.

Despite the fact that caregivers do some of the **most** challenging work humans can be asked to do; caring for the sick, the elderly, the disabled and the dying, we pay them **less** than nearly all other professions.

You cannot assume that when you age, get ill or become disabled by an accident that in-home care will be available to you or within your reach.

*See your choices*

## Nursing Home-Level Care

If you need nursing home-level care, be prepared to pay an average of \$7,756 per month for a semi-private room. This presents a significant financial burden that many are simply not prepared for.

## Private In-Home Care

An alternative is to pay for private care in your home, which can cost hundreds of dollars a day. If that is out of reach for you, you may qualify for care through the NH Choices for Independence (CFI) program.

## Choices for Independence

CFI is a New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services program for adults 18 years or older with nursing home level of care needs but prefer to live at home and be financially eligible for long-term care Medicaid.

Choices for Independence is the most feasible option for many people; it's affordable and allows people to remain in the comfort of their homes with their loved ones. A lack of funding is currently preventing people from receiving this type of care.

**\$19,100**

**Median Annual Caregiver Wage – 2022**

**50%**

**of Direct Care Workers Require Public Assistance Due to High Rates of Poverty**

**85%**

**of In-home Care Workers are Women**

## Why Should You Care?

### A Dire Need

Thousands of NH residents are in desperate need of care in their homes.

### An Aging Population

The number of people 85 years and older is expected to nearly double by 2035 (from 6.5 million to 11.8 million).

### Not Enough Caregivers

About 599,800 openings for home health and personal care aides are projected each year, on average, over the decade.