Letter of Support for MHCA’s Home Care Base Rate Increase Legislation

What the bill does: Raises the Medical Assistance reimbursement rate for home care services such that the rates are somewhat closer to the Medicare reimbursement rates. Specifically, the bill would impact reimbursement rates for home care nursing and home health services, not including PCA as that rate is being addressed in separate legislation.

*The letter can be addressed “To Whom It May Concern”*

*Items to consider for your brief letter of support:*

*Insert information about your organization, where you are located, what services you provide, to how many Minnesotans. Insert a brief example or two of how your home care staff support Minnesotans to stay in their own homes versus more expensive congregate settings.*

*Insert a few specific examples from your organization about your challenges in meeting the home care need in your community based on the current Medical Assistance home care reimbursement rates. Legislators are particularly interested in hearing about the impact of legislation on people in need of services. Consider including the following:*

* *What are the challenges you face offering competitive wages and benefits for home care staff, as compared to other employers in your community?*
* *How many open positions do you have?*
* *Have you seen a reduction in your home care staff? How much of one?*
* *How long have your open positions been vacant?*
* *Do you currently have a waiting list for services?*
* *Historically, what percentage of coverage for hours of services needed by current clients have you been able to provide? Where is that average at currently?*
* *What does it mean for your current or prospective clients when they can’t get access to the home care services they need? This is a particularly important point to share with legislators.*

I am asking for your support of MHCA’s legislation to increase the base rate for home care services so we can ensure that older Minnesotans and those with disabilities and complex health needs can remain living independently in their home. By doing so, they will avoid needing to access more intensive and expensive services.

Feel free to reach out to me if you have questions about the challenges we are facing. I can be reached at (insert email).

Sincerely,

Name

Organization