LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY DAY

House Bill 914

Support our Direct Care Workforce Wednesday June 9, 2021

A coalition of organizations across Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities, Aging and Mental Health providing residential, home and community-based health services, will be rallying at the General Assembly in support of increased wages for direct support workers.

HB 914 Support Our Direct Care Workforce would increase the hourly wages of direct support staff across a variety of Medicaid services including Innovations and other home and community-based waivers, personal care services, ICFs, home health, nursing homes and other behavioral health community and residential facilities. This increased rate is intended to make sure that people who qualify for services have the direct support workforce they need. Increased rates mean providers can pay competitive wages, retain experienced Direct Support Workers, and people who need support can receive the help they need.

WE NEED YOUR VOICE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!!!!!

Reach out to the <u>legislators that represent you</u> but please also contact the key legislators who make the budget decisions listed below:

Senator Jim Perry representing Lenoir and Wayne County Office Phone: (919) 733-5621 Email: Jim.Perry@ncleg.gov

Senator Joyce Krawiec representing Forsyth and Davie

Office Phone: (919) 733-7850 Email: Joyce.Krawiec@ncleg.gov

Senator Jim Burgin representing Harnett, Johnston and Lee Office Phone: (919) 733-5748 Email: Jim.Burgin@ncleg.gov

Senator Deanna Ballard representing Alleghany, Ashe, Surry, Watauga, Wilkes

Office Phone: (919) 733-5742 Email: Deanna.Ballard@ncleg.gov Senator Steve Jarvis representing Davidson and Montgomery

Office Phone: (919) 733-5743 Email: Steve.Jarvis@ncleg.gov

Senator Kathy Harrington representing Gaston

Office Phone: (919) 733-5734 Email: Kathy.Harrington@ncleg.gov

Senator Ralph Hise representing Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Yancey

Office Phone: (919) 733-3460 Email: Ralph.Hise@ncleg.gov

Senator Brent Jackson representing Sampson, Duplin, Johnston
Office Phone: (919) 733-5705 Email: Brent.Jackson@ncleg.gov

Representative Kim Baker representing Cabarrus

Office Phone: <u>919-733-5861</u> Email: <u>Kristin.Baker@ncleg.gov</u>

Representative Larry Potts representing Davidson

Office Phone: 919-715-0873 Email: Larry.Potts@ncleg.gov

Representative Wayne Sasser representing Stanly, Cabarrus, Rowan Office Phone: 704-982-8003 Email: Wayne.Sasser@ncleg.gov

Representative Donna White representing Johnson

Office Phone: 919-889-1239 Email: Donna.White@ncleg.gov

Representative Donny Lambeth representing Forsyth

Office Phone: <u>919-733-5747</u> Email: <u>Donny.Lambeth@ncleg.gov</u>

Representative Jason Saine representing Lincoln

Office Phone: 919-733-5782 Email: Jason.Saine@ncleg.gov

Representative Dean Arc representing Union

Office Phone: 704-282-0418 Email: Dean.Arp@ncleg.gov

Rally in Person:

Come to the General Assembly and talk with legislators in person to advocate for waivers and increased Direct Support Worker wages. Use the talking point sheet to guide you.

- 1. Call your legislators' offices and ask for an appointment on Wednesday, June 9th
- 2. Can't get an appointment? Come to the NCGA, pick up the talking points in the 1300 quadrant of the Legislative Building on 16 West Jones Street (we will have a rep in a rally t-shirt stationed in that quadrant at a table with copies and can help you with directions), and drop them off at your legislators' offices. You may be able to catch them for a chat if they are in their office.
- 3. Attend a press conference on the bill Wed, June 9th at 9:30 at the press room located in the Legislative Building on 16 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC.

For parking information go to the <u>General Assembly Visitor Info</u>. Note that there are security checkpoints at building entrances: please be prepared to have belongings scanned/checked and to wait as people go through metal detector scans.

Rally From Home:

If you cannot come to Raleigh in person, make your voice heard in other ways! Use your talking point sheet to guide you.

- 1. Email or Call your NCGA members! BE BRIEF, BE RESPECTFUL.
 - Introduce yourself and how you are connected to this issue.
 - Tell them your story of how the low DSW wages are affecting you.
 - Tell them about the importance of high-quality, consistent, caring staff.
- 2. Record a short video talking about the impact of low DSW wages and post the video on your social media accounts and tag your NCGA elected officials.
- 3. Tweet your NCGA elected officials with the hashtags #invisibleheros.

Some suggested tweets:

- "Direct Support Workers need competitive wages."
- "Support NCGA House Bill 914 #invisibleheros"
- Or come up with your own!