



SUPPORT RATE INCREASES FOR NURSES

BACKGROUND

Private Duty Nursing services provide in-home long-term care for medically fragile children and adults living with chronic illness, injury or disability. Care is provided in shifts by an LPN, RN or Home Health Aide.

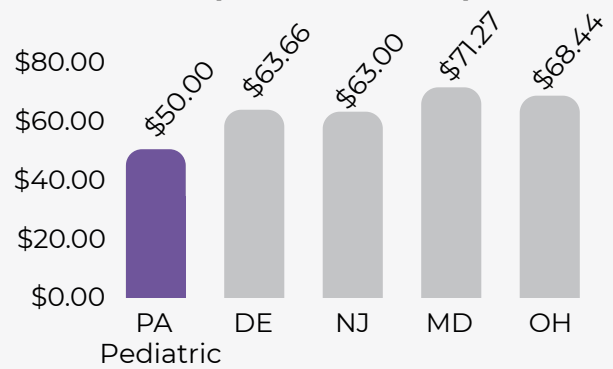
Pennsylvania's private duty nursing program supports more than 10,000 medically-complex and vulnerable children and more than 3,000 adults and seniors each year.

In the 2021 Mercer report titled "U.S. Health Labor Market," **Pennsylvania was ranked as having the most severe shortage of nurses in the nation.** Projections indicate that this situation will continue to deteriorate each year unless steps are taken to bolster the workforce.

OUR POSITION

- The Nursing Licensure Compact exacerbated PA's nursing crisis by allowing license reciprocity among states. PA nurses can now cross the border to states with higher rates.
- Pennsylvania's RN reimbursement rate is 46% below the weighted average of neighboring states.

RN Hourly Medicaid Rate by State



- Lack of standardized rates in PA results in nurses prioritizing patient populations with higher reimbursement rates.

HOURLY NURSING REIMBURSEMENT RATES BY PROGRAM

	OMAP	OLTL	ODP
<i>Population</i>	<i>Pediatric</i>	<i>Aging and Physical Disability</i>	<i>Intellectual and Developmental Disability</i>
RN	\$ 50.00	\$ 66.20	\$ 76.28
LPN	\$ 50.00	\$ 44.08	\$ 55.08

- In the last 30 years, rate increases for pediatric care (OMAP) occurred only three times. For adults (OLTL), only once.
- Reimbursement rates have not kept pace with inflation and increased cost of care.
- Failing to adequately support in-home care WILL result in more costly Medicaid funded institutional care!

CALL TO ACTION

- **Support standardized reimbursement rates of \$55.00/hour for nursing** in the Office of Medical Assistance Providers (OMAP) and Office of Long-Term Living (OLTL) programs.

Approximate impact: \$32.4M annually

- Support an increase in home health aide reimbursement rates in the same program from \$27.36 to \$30.10/hour.

Approximate impact: \$5.7M annually