



Governor Evers Continues Investment in Wisconsin’s Long-Term Caregivers A Good First-Step Toward Reforming Family Care

“We are grateful for Governor Evers’ commitment to improving Wisconsin’s long-term care system. Providers serving persons with disabilities are in a state of crisis. The budget proposals announced today are an investment in the most important factor in quality care – the actual hands-on caregivers. It is disgraceful that caregiver wages for serving persons with cognitive and behavioral disabilities are often at poverty levels. Low caregiver wages speak to the broken and inadequate reimbursement system in Family Care. We look forward to working with the Legislature and Governor on comprehensive, systemic reforms which are overdue for Family Care.”

- Lisa Davidson, CEO

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Contact: Lisa Davidson, CEO
ldavidson@dspn.org
(414) 403-1169

WISCONSIN STATE CAPITOL... Long-term care programs serving persons with disabilities have been facing a severe caregiver shortage crisis. Four years ago, in 2017, the Joint Finance Committee and State Legislature recognized this crisis and created the “Family Care Direct Caregiver Reimbursement” initiative - targeting funding to wage increases for direct caregivers. In 2019, the State Legislature and Governor approved significant additional funding. The Governor’s proposal recognizes Wisconsin’s continued long-term caregiver crisis, which has been exacerbated during the COVID-19 pandemic. To ensure providers can maintain the highest quality of life possible for people with disabilities, long term solutions such as establishing a new reimbursement methodology are also critically needed.

About the Disability Service Provider Network

Every person deserves a place in their community and the opportunity to live a full, meaningful life. Our DSPN members help make this possible by providing residential and non-residential services that enable people with disabilities and economic disadvantages to live and work in their local communities. DSPN is the leading state trade association for disability service providers and exists to support and be a resource for member providers through advocacy and education resources so they can provide the highest quality and full array of services for those with disabilities throughout Wisconsin.

Disability Service Provider Network, Inc.

16 N Carroll Street, Ste 300, Madison, WI 53703-2763 | 608.244.5310 | www.dspnetwork.org