



**Wisconsin Personal Services
Association, Inc.**
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In-Home Care Providers Applaud Governor Evers, Legislature for Personal Care Increase

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 9, 2021

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The Wisconsin Personal Services Association applauds Governor Evers and the Legislature for providing a significant investment in personal care services in the 2021-23 state budget. As signed into law, the budget includes \$78 million in additional funding to personal care agencies. This is the second budget in a row that includes a significant investment to support personal care workers who provide in-home care to older adults and people with disabilities.

“We are grateful to Governor Evers and lawmakers for their continued support of Wisconsin’s caregivers. The funding increase included in the state budget acknowledges the value of personal care workers, who have been on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic,” said WPSA President Todd Costello.

Personal care agencies are in desperate need of relief due to severe recruitment and retention issues, which are leaving many people without care. Over 50% of agencies surveyed by WPSA currently have seven or more open caregiver positions while 1 in 3 agencies have more than 10 open positions. Many agencies report losing caregivers to Kwik Trip, Walmart and fast food restaurants because they can offer higher wages.

“We have heard from personal care agencies across the state that people are missing meals, sleeping in their wheelchairs or spending hours in soiled clothing due to the severe shortage of personal care workers,” said Costello. “The increased funding provided by the state budget will help agencies raise wages so that they can find and keep quality caregivers.”

The Wisconsin Personal Services Association (WPSA) is a statewide association of personal care and other home care providers. WPSA has educated, advocated, and united agencies and individuals in all Wisconsin counties for 30 years to provide quality personal/supportive home care services to over 10,000 consumers and as many, if not more, direct care workers.

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