

Our Ask: \$650k additional general funds per year to ensure a 5% increase for direct service providers of Choices for Independence (CFI) home-based services.

Why? Money currently included in the budget would only provide an increase of approximately 2%. Most of these providers have not had an increase in over a DECADE!

Who are services provided to? CFI services are provided to **elderly and adults with physical disabilities** who qualify for nursing home care. CFI services allow people who want to age at home to do so. However, due to an inadequate work force and processing delays, our aging loved ones are currently waiting months to receive the services they need in order to stay in their homes and live healthy lives. This problem is only going to increase as NH's population ages. Did you know that NH residents age 65 and older will more than double from 2010 to 2040 and will triple for people age 85 and older?

Is CFI cost-effective? YES! As you can imagine, it is much more cost-effective to support people in their homes than in an institution. In fact, **CFI services cost about 30% of what nursing home care costs.**

What providers would receive the increase?

Mid-level residential care
Adult Daycare
Personal Care
Adult Family Care
Adult in Home Care
Case Management
Community Transition
Respite Care
Home delivered meals
Medication dispensing
Non-medical transportation

Who are these providers?

Home and community based service providers are productive members of our society who act as an economic engine in their communities, paying rent and buying groceries. However at current wages, the cost of living in New Hampshire can be a struggle.

As Governor Sununu said, *"We pay people more money to wash dishes than we pay them to watch and care for our loved ones...we pay toll collectors more than nursing assistants. Does anyone wonder why we have shortages among healthcare workers?"*

Supporting Organizations

AARP-NH
Adult Day Association
Alzheimer's Association of MA/NH
Ascentria
Bayada Home Health Care
Child and Family Services
CAP Belknap-Merrimack Counties, Inc.
Crotched Mountain Community Care
Disability Rights Center-NH
Easterseals
EngAGING NH
Grafton County Senior Citizens Council, Inc.
Granite State Home Health Association
Life Coping
The Moore Center
New Futures
Newport Senior Center d/b/a
Sullivan County Nutrition Services
NH Association of Residential Care Homes
NH Chapter of National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys
NH Legal Assistance
NH Public Health Association
Oral Healthcare@Home, Inc.
Rockingham Nutrition and Meals on Wheels Program
St. Joseph Community Services, Inc.
Strafford Nutrition Meals on Wheels
Victory Women of Vision

ABOUT THE NH ALLIANCE FOR HEALTHY AGING: The NH Alliance for Healthy Aging (NH AHA) is a statewide coalition of cross sector stakeholders focused on the health and well-being of elders in New Hampshire. NH AHA works to advance a shared agenda in support of its vision to create communities in New Hampshire that advance culture, policies and services which support older adults and their families, providing a wide range of choices that advance health, independence and dignity.