



PENNSYLVANIA LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN

FACTS: Low Income Personal Care Home providers are currently only receiving a daily rate of \$37.00/day to provide care and is far too low to sustain a quality business model. Many of these residents are forced to a higher level of care that is much more expensive.

Long-Term Care residents have a limited personal needs allowance income. This has isolated them from the means to connect to their legislators and leaders. We need to advocate for ways to connect to this valuable group of invisible constituents to you and others.

The Federal Nursing Home Regulations passed in 2018 paved the way for person centered care and quality of life initiatives for our consumers. Undermining the enforcement of these regulations' places long-term care consumers at risk of poor quality of care and quality of life. The use of memos to provide under handed direction at the Bureau and Division level has been very detrimental at the Federal and State level, resulting in weakened consequences for providers out of compliance. Considering the poorly performing facilities listing this is contradictory to your current platform on poor quality nursing home care in Pennsylvania. We have received clear messages from our consumers that this is unacceptable. Establishing revised staffing standards of practice are imperative as well.

Advocate for those who can't, support those who can and ensure that all long-term care consumers live with dignity and respect is the vision of the program.

The Ask: Increase to the Personal Care Home supplement over a two year period to \$76.04 per day

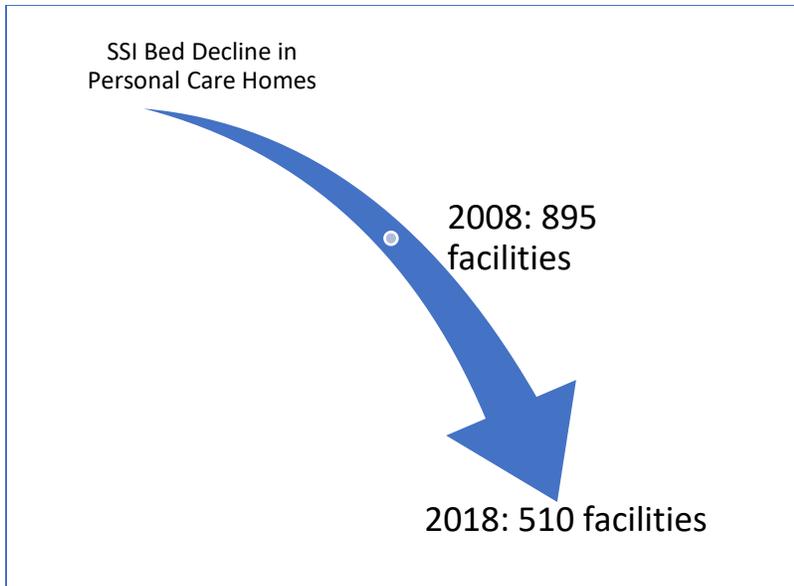
The Ask: An increase to the Personal Needs Allowance for all low income long-term care residents.

The Ask: Increase opportunities for isolated consumers of long-term care services to have access to their legislators and leaders

The Ask: Keep Federal Nursing Home Protections strong. Pennsylvania needs updated and stronger State regulations as well. Staffing must be addressed in order to ensure quality care.

WHAT IS THE LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN

PROGRAM: Under the federal Older Americans Act (OAA) every state is required to have an Ombudsman Program that addresses complaints and advocates for improvements in the long-term care system; Each state has an Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman (Office), headed by a full-time State Long-Term Care Ombudsman (Ombudsman) who directs the program statewide.



We are in a crisis: Without an increase in the Personal Care Home supplement, valuable community personal care homes will decrease by a projected 50% this year, resulting in more than 2545 individuals transitioning to nursing facility care or homelessness.

Who are the Invisible Constituents?

 <p>702 Nursing Homes in Pennsylvania</p>	 <p>50,342 Female Residents 26,028 Male Residents</p>	 <p>76,370 Individuals living in nursing home care</p>	 <p>Medicaid pays over 5 Billion dollars to care for our nursing home consumers in Pennsylvania</p>
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We have a network of 2,500 Pennsylvania's Empowered Expert Residents who have been trained in self-advocacy by our office. The PEER Advisory Council has asked us to provide their message to you on their behalf. If you need further information, please contact us:

Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman housed within Pennsylvania Department of Aging; 555 Walnut Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101 (717)-783-8975. www.aging.pa.gov