

SUPPORTING FAMILIES AS CAREGIVERS

CURRENT CHALLENGES

- 61% of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities receiving HCBS live with family caregivers, who often provide full-time care without compensation. *
- This lack of support leads to caregiver burnout, service disruptions, and in many cases, unnecessary institutional placement.
- The burden on families strains both emotional well-being and financial stability, weakening family units and driving up public care costs.



"I left my full-time job when Andy turned two...this is a critical time... I don't regret one second of our journey.."
~ Christine, mom to LIFEPlan Member, Andy

PROPOSAL: SUPPORT FAMILY CAREGIVER BILL A10375

- Establishes a Complex Care Assistant Services Program within Medicaid to allow trained and certified family members to provide private duty nursing services to Medicaid enrollees.
- Authorizes Medicaid coverage for certified family members to provide complex home care, such as medication administration and skilled nursing tasks.
- Aligns state policy with existing consumer directed home care programs while extending care options for individuals with IDD.

HOW THIS PROPOSAL WORKS

- Clearly defines the certification requirements and tasks covered in the role.
- Medicaid director will establish certification/training and set reimbursement rates for services rendered.
- Certified family caregivers will be employed by a licensed agency, and undergo in-person examination and training.
- The structure ensures spending stays within existing Medicaid reimbursement limits for no additional state costs, and requires a federal plan amendment to implement.

EXPECTED OUTCOME

- Strengthened family stability by valuing and compensating family-based care
- Cost-effective care model that reduces reliance on institutional and private nursing.
- Enhanced continuity and quality of care, with consistent, trusted support at home.
- Reduced caregiver burnout, preventing service disruptions and avoiding crises.
- A more inclusive long-term care system.

Individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities deserve better.

Their families deserve better.

It's time to invest in dignity, equity, and the future of community-based care.

**<https://caseforinclusion.org/publications/data-snapshots>*