

AGING AND LONG TERM SUPPORT ADMINISTRATION



Restore Agency Provider Rate Cut 2015-17 BIENNIAL BUDGET

Request	FY16	FY17	15-17
FTE	0	0	0
GF-State	\$898,000	\$932,000	\$1,830,000
Total	\$1,796,000	\$1,863,000	\$3,659,000

DECISION PACKAGE SUMMARY

The Aging and Long Term Support Administration (AL TSA) and Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) request funding to restore the \$0.13 administrative rate reduction for home care agencies that was enacted in 2010. This will allow home care agencies to maintain a sufficient workforce to meet growing caseload demands in the face of the rising demographic age wave population increase.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The recent budget shortfalls in Washington State necessitated a variety of cost saving measures. While attempting to shield direct services as much as possible, many cuts were targeted at administrative components of provider rates. In the case of agency home care providers, this included a \$0.13 administrative rate reduction. In the years since, the caseload for agency in-home care has continued to increase at a faster rate than before, unlike the individual provider caseload which has increased at a slower rate than previous trends.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

In order to maintain a viable number of agency provider placements, restoring the administrative cut will allow the providers to continue to recruit, train and manage a growing workforce. Agency providers are a key partner in continuing Washington’s progress in rebalancing the Medicaid service model, shifting away from institutional nursing home and Residential Habilitation Center care by allowing people to remain in their homes while receiving the necessary supports.

EXPECTED RESULTS

The budget request supports DSHS Goal 4: Quality of Life – Each individual in need will be supported to obtain the highest possible quality of life, and Goal 5: Strong management practices will be used to ensure quality and efficiency. Serving people in their own homes supports client choice, and also will help avoid more costly institutional nursing home placements.



DSHS VISION

People are healthy • People are safe • People are supported • Taxpayer resources are guarded

DSHS MISSION

To transform lives

DSHS VALUES

Honesty and Integrity • Pursuit of Excellence • Open Communication • Diversity and Inclusion • Commitment to Service

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The decision package is essential to implementing the AL TSA Strategic Objective 4.1: Ensure seniors and individuals with a disability who are in need of long-term services and supports are supported in their community.

This request supports the Results Washington goal 3.2: Increase the percentage of supported seniors and individuals with a disability served in home and community-based settings.

STAKEHOLDER IMPACT

Advocates for seniors and the disabled, including the AARP, the Senior Lobby, and SEIU775NW all strongly support maintaining a strong, viable in-home care network.



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