

STEVE SISOLAK
Governor



RICHARD WHITLEY, MS
Director

DENA SCHMIDT
Administrator

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
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Silver Haired Legislative Forum
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701-4747
c/o John A. Yacenda, President

Mr. Yacenda,

The Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD) is in receipt of your letter addressed Director Whitley and Governor Brian Sandoval dated December 26, 2018. Within this letter are concerns expressed regarding the current lack of access to Personal Care Services (PCS) for low-middle income seniors and their families. Additionally, concerns are expressed regarding limited education and training opportunities for Personal Care Attendant's and a reported pay gap between state-reimbursed and privately compensated PCS contributing to a lack of access, as well as low Medicaid reimbursement rates.

The ADSD would like to comment on the concerns regarding the access to PCS for low-middle income seniors and their families.

The ADSD is committed to assisting seniors, individuals with disabilities, and children to help keep them in their community, and in their home. PCS is a service that is highly sought after, utilized, and needed in the State of Nevada. The ADSD manages two (2) programs which assist low-middle income seniors with PCS in their home. These programs are Community Options Program for the Elderly (COPE) and the Homemaker program. Additionally, the ADSD Operates the Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) Waiver for the Frail Elderly (FE), which is administered by the Division of Health Care Financing and Policy (DHCFP), and allows an individual access to full Medicaid services and HCBS FE Waiver services, both of which provide PCS to eligible individuals.

Additionally, ADSD Contracts with 72 PCS Agencies who serve individuals on the COPE program, and 58 PCS agencies who serve individuals on the Homemaker program. As of December 31, 2018 ADSD had 43 active COPE recipients and 313 active Homemaker recipients.

If ADSD can be of further assistance, please contact Crystal Wren, Chief of Community Based Services, at (775) 687-0969, or cwren@adsd.nv.gov.

Thank you,

Crystal Wren