



Invest in Missouri Care Infrastructure

President Biden proposed including \$400 billion in funding for home and community based services (HCBS) in his federal infrastructure plan, known as the American Jobs Plan. This funding is desperately needed, and it would benefit all Americans by boosting the economy, allowing workers to earn a living wage, expanding services to older adults and people with disabilities, and allowing family caregivers to return to work or continue working.

We must invest in our home care workforce...



Home care workers provide essential services to older adults and people with disabilities, but struggle to earn a living – exacerbating the inequities already faced by women, people of color, and immigrants. Because of low compensation and other job quality challenges, Missouri is already experiencing a workforce shortage that will only worsen without action.

⋮

Over **71,000** home care workers provide services in Missouri.¹

Missouri's home care workers earn an average hourly wage of **\$11.10**, and have average annual earnings of only **\$13,700**.¹

Nearly **1 in 3** of Missouri's home care workers live in poverty.¹

34% of home care workers in Missouri are people of color, **87%** are female and **3%** are immigrants.¹

...so that older adults, people with disabilities, and family caregivers can receive the supports they need.



A growing number of older adults and people with disabilities require HCBS, and many of them rely upon Medicaid to provide it. Relatedly, a growing number of family caregivers struggle with the physical, emotional and financial strain that our HCBS system puts upon them.

⋮

Over **165,000** residents of Missouri need help with daily activities such as bathing or dressing.²

In Missouri, over **91,000** people receive HCBS through Medicaid.³

730,000 family caregivers provide **610 million** hours of care to loved ones who are 18+ in Missouri.⁴

From 2018-2028, Missouri will need to fill almost **140,000** home care job openings.⁵

Investing in HCBS will benefit us all.



Create and support **22,740** new jobs each year over ten years, **17,810** of which are “living wage” care jobs.⁶

Add an estimated **\$784.3 million** additional income for current workers and their families in Missouri each year.⁶

³This report contains data from 2013, so the current number of people who receive HCBS through Medicaid is likely higher. This number was calculated by adding the total who received only Medicaid HCBS to the number of people who received both Medicaid HCBS and Medicaid institutional services over the course of the year. Eiken, 2017. Medicaid Long-Term Services and Supports Beneficiaries in 2013 (Table 1). Truven Health Analytics. <https://www.medicaid.gov/sites/default/files/2019-12/lrss-beneficiaries-2013.pdf>.

⁴Reinhard et al. 2019. Valuing the Invaluable: 2019 Update. AARP. <https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/ppi/2019/11/valuing-the-invaluable-2019-update-charting-a-path-forward.doi.10.26419-2Fppi.00082.001.pdf>.

⁵ Home care job openings include new jobs created and jobs that need to be filled due to workers leaving the field or the labor force. PHI, 2020. <https://phinational.org/policy-research/workforce-data-center/#tab=State+Data&natvar=Employment+Projections&states=42>

For more information, visit WomenEffectFund.org.