



Health Care for Health Care Workers

The independent living community supports the continued funding of the Health Care for Healthcare Workers program that was initiated during the 2007 Legislature to continue funding health care insurance for direct care workers.

These direct care workers are vital to the lives of people with disabilities and in order to make the job more attractive and to sustain a healthy and vibrant workforce, health insurance for these hard-working Montanans is needed.

We support the funding proposals to extend funding for this vital program at its current level over the next biennium.

	<u>Total Agency Impact</u>	<u>General Fund Total</u>
FY 2012	\$1,081,866	\$365,779
FY 2013	\$1,081,866	\$370,647

PL- 22107 - HCHCW Funding Annualization -

This decision package is to annualize the costs associated with Health Care for Health Care Workers program. The 2007 Legislature appropriated funding to pay health insurance premiums for workers in the personal assistance and private duty nursing programs. In order to receive these funds, a provider agency employing the workers must provide health insurance coverage that meets an established benchmark for all of its employees. This adjustment will continue the coverage of this insurance program at the current level. This request is for \$2,163,732 of total funds and \$736,426 of general fund over the biennium.

	<u>Total Agency Impact</u>	<u>General Fund Total</u>
FY 2012	\$0	\$41,032
FY 2013	\$0	\$57,476

PL- 22108 - HCHCW FMAP Adjustment -

This decision package is to recognize the change in the federal matching rate (FMAP) for the Medicaid-funded Health Care for Health Care Workers program from the 2010 match rate to 0.3381 in FY 2012 and 0.3426 in FY 2013. The decrease in federal funds is equal to the increase in general fund in the amount of \$41,032 in FY 2012 and \$57,476 in FY 2013.