



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

### **Pennsylvania Joins Homecare Community Nationwide to Help Pennsylvania Seniors, People with Disabilities Exercise Their Right to Vote**

**Lemoine, Pa. (August 8, 2016)** – The Pennsylvania Homecare Association (PHA) and homecare agencies across the state are joining home-based care providers across the country to participate in Bring the Vote Home, a national initiative designed to help seniors and people with disabilities who may have difficulty traveling to the polls register to vote and cast their ballots in the November election.

Member agencies will be conducting voter drives among their staff, patients and consumers. Caregivers will assist patients and their families in registering to vote or in applying for absentee ballots. In addition, PHA is polling all Pennsylvania Congressional candidates and candidates for the Pennsylvania Senate to learn their position on home-based care for seniors and people with disabilities. All responses will be compiled into a Voter Guide that will be distributed to homecare professionals, patients, consumers and families across the state this fall.

“Home-based care providers deliver preferred and cost-effective care to seniors and individuals with disabilities, and we are committed to helping people remain independent and living at home,” said PHA CEO Vicki Hoak. “But with threats of continuing cuts to Medicare and Medicaid, there are many concerns about older Pennsylvanians and adults with disabilities being able to continue to receive the care and assistance they need to remain at home.

“Bring the Vote Home will enable us to speak up this political campaign season and tell lawmakers what the homecare community supports, such as efforts to reduce hospitalizations and increase funding for home and community-based services and chronic care management, and more importantly what we don’t, like cuts and inadequate reimbursement rates that limit access to Medicaid in-home care and co-pays for Medicare home health,” she added.

Pennsylvania’s homecare community brings care and services into the homes of more than 575,000 seniors and people with disabilities – a number that is growing each year as people live longer. Homecare is a lifeline, providing everything from medical care to assistance with activities of daily living like bathing and grooming. And now, homecare will provide a voice to these patients and consumers.

[Click here](#) to learn more about Bring the Vote Home Pennsylvania.

***About PHA...** The Pennsylvania Homecare Association is a statewide organization of more than 700 homecare and hospice providers. PHA members provide quality care and serve as advocates for their patients and clients on a variety of healthcare related issues. PHA and its members work hard to improve professional standards and ensure access to quality homecare throughout the Commonwealth. To learn more, visit [www.pahomecare.org](http://www.pahomecare.org).*

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