

# Faces at Home



Many people with disabilities depend on direct care workers for help with daily tasks at home that most people take for granted, like preparing a meal, getting dressed, or going to the bathroom. There is a high demand for these services in Pennsylvania, but an inadequate supply of people to do this work. The Medicaid rate isn't sufficient to provide these caregivers an adequate wage. **Here is what two consumers say their home caregivers mean to them:**

## Steve Myers



Steve Myers, of Northumberland County, is a quadriplegic since an accident in his late 20s. He says that while most people look forward to weekends and holidays, he dreads them. He said due to the lack of caregivers, his agency struggles to find aides to cover shifts on weekends. So he is alone. "It is scary for me to think about what I would do if I didn't have caregivers. I would be miserable. Because of them I can live at home and have freedom."

## Brenda Dare

Brenda Dare is not only a homecare consumer, she has also made it her career. A project manager at Transitional Paths to Independent Living (TRPIL) in Washington County, Brenda says that home care is FREEDOM! "It allows me to be a taxpaying, fully employed person, independent and active in my community."



# TAKE ACTION!

Support a Medicaid rate increase in the 2019-20 state budget to support the caregivers who help Steve and Brenda stay independent!