

## NEWS RELEASE

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## NEW YORK HEALTH PLAN ASSOCIATION ON HOME CARE WORKER FUNDING Statement from HPA President and CEO Eric Linzer

"Fair wage funding should be utilized to increase worker salaries, and health plans have been working diligently to adjust their rates to providers to reflect the changes included in the FY23 State Budget. Unfortunately, in some cases the funding made available to health plans is not enough to support increases of the magnitude that providers are seeking, while in others some providers are not seeking the funds for workers but rather for profit. There is also confusion due to the lack of clarity in the guidance and the need for updated rate packages so plans know the amount of funds available to pay providers.

"It is critical that the state finalize all rate packages to bring clarity to the process. Once the rate packages have been finalized, it is vital that home care agencies pass those increases along through increased wages for home care workers, and that there is accountability and transparency as to how providers spend these funds."

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The New York Health Plan Association represents 29 managed care health plans that provide comprehensive health care services to more than 8 million New Yorkers.