



## 2019 National Backyard Advocacy Bash For Home Care & Hospice July 1-2, 2019

Your elected officials will be in their local home offices, right in your own backyard, during the congressional recess, and we want you to drop by and show your support for home-based care and services.

NAHC is always advocating for home care and hospice in Washington, D.C., but elected officials want to hear directly from their voters. You, your staff, patients and families, are the best advocates for the home health care and hospice community. You are first-hand experts on the issues and opportunities impacting home based care and services today, and your representatives need to hear from you.

Change is achieved through strength and unity of voice, and together we can make an extraordinary impact.

Help us make the inaugural NAHC Backyard Bash a success by using your advocacy skills, sharing your stories, and making a little good ol' backyard noise for home health care and hospice.

### Questions?

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### Who?

Advocacy is for everyone and the summer months are for celebrating democracy together in your own “backyard”.

You are encouraged to get everyone and anyone involved in your home state. Patients, family members, office staff, and clinicians- the more the merrier, the greater the noise, the bigger the impact!

### Take Action!

Arrange visits with your legislators and district offices on your own turf:

- Talk about the key issue
- Bring a clinician with you to share their story and perspective
- Encourage your official to go on a home visit during the month of August
- Ask them to participate in a home care & hospice town hall during recess

If they are unavailable, drop-in and drop off copies of the provided Fact Sheet, a personal note and business card, and maybe even speak with one of their staff.

While you're there, don't forget the photo op, and chance to show off your advocacy skills in the digital world by posting or tweeting a photo of your visit with your team with one or all of the following:

#ADVOCACYINACTION #NAHCHeartbeat  
#NAHCBB19

### Need Tips?

Feeling like you and your team may need some pointers? NAHC has you covered. Check out the included [ADVOCACY TIPS](#) for best practices and guidance on having a successful meeting with your elected official(s).

### Find Your Elected Officials

U.S. Senators

U.S. Representatives



## KEY ISSUE

### PDGM – Home Health Payment Innovation Act of 2019 S.433/ H.R. 2573

As part of broader reforms to the Medicare Home Health benefit, CMS is proposing deep cuts to reimbursement rates on the basis of assumptions about provider behavior. No data or evidence was used in their assumptions. This will undoubtedly harm home health patients and providers.

The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018 allows the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to establish and adjust reimbursement rates in the Medicare Home Health Prospective Payment System (HHPPS) based on assumptions of changes in provider behavior, in response to the new Patient Driven Groupings Model (PDGM) payment system. Subjecting providers to a rate cut while simultaneously implementing the most significant change in the payment structure since the inception of the HHPPS risks instability and threaten providers' ability to maintain operations.

#### This legislation would:

- Remove CMS's ability to make assumptions of provider behavior in rate setting;
- Require adjustments to be made on the basis of actual behavior change;
- Phase in adjustments by no more than 2% per year, increase or decrease; and
- Allow for wavier of the homebound requirement for patients covered by Medicare Advantage plans or under a Medicare Shared Savings Program.

[Download the Fact Sheet](#)

