



Established in 1982, the National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) is the largest organization representing home health, hospice, and home care providers across the United States. Following are NAHC's Legislative priorities for 2022 as approved by the NAHC Board of Directors in February 2022. This list will guide NAHC's congressional advocacy efforts. The issues are grouped into **Cross Sector** – those that span all care in the home, **Home Health Services, Hospice and Palliative Care, and Private Duty Home Care**. With each priority the specific [Legislative Blueprint](#) item is identified with corresponding page number. The Blueprint items provide in-depth background, specific recommendation(s), and rationale for each.

Cross Sector Priority

INSTITUTE COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORTS TO INCREASE THE HOME CARE WORKFORCE

- a. **Support Proposals that will Supply a Qualified, Stable Direct Care Workforce for Long-Term Care Consumers** (Legislative Blueprint, page 69)
- b. **Provide Sufficient Home Care and Hospice Payments so that Agencies can Provide Appropriate Wages and Benefits to Clinical Staff** (Legislative Blueprint, page 76)
- c. **Ensure Availability of Home Care and Hospice Personnel to Meet the Growing Needs of the Baby Boom Generation, Particularly in Rural, Inner City, and Other Underserved Areas** (Legislative Blueprint, page 77)
- d. **Require Medical Residents and Other Professional Licensed Staff to have Home Care and Hospice Experience as Part of their Medical Education** (Legislative Blueprint, page 71)
- e. **Support Efforts to Meet the Growing Need for Trained Palliative Care Professionals** (Legislative Blueprint, page 220)

Home Health Services Priorities

1. **AVOID MEDICARE PAYMENT CUTS:** Ensure that Medicare Home Health Payment Model Revisions Provide Fair and Reasonable Reimbursement to Maintain Access to Care (Legislative Blueprint, page 121)
2. **EXTEND THE MEDICARE 2% SEQUESTRATION MORATORIUM:** End Application of Medicare Sequestration (Legislative Blueprint, page 119)
3. **ENACT INNOVATIONS IN MEDICARE HOME CARE SERVICES:** Create Enhanced Home Health Benefit as Alternative to the Skilled Nursing Facility Benefit (CHOOSE HOME program) (Legislative Blueprint, page 12)
4. **IMPROVE HOME HEALTH SERVICES IN MEDICARE ADVANTAGE:** Ensure Adequate Reimbursement from Medicare Advantage Plans for Home Health Services (Legislative Blueprint, page 136)
5. **EXPAND MEDICARE SUPPORT FOR TELEHEALTH IN PAYMENTS AND THE F2F REQUIREMENTS:** Provide Reimbursement for Telehealth Services in the Home Health Benefit (Legislative Blueprint, page 88)
6. **RESTORE A MEDICARE RURAL ADD-ON:** Make Permanent the Add-on for Services to Rural Patients; Ensure Care Access for Rural and Underserved Patients (Legislative Blueprint, page 108)

Hospice and Palliative Care Priorities

1. **ENSURE HOSPICE OVERSIGHT POLICIES ARE FAIR, TARGETED, DATA-DRIVEN, TRANSPARENT, AND MINIMIZE THE BURDEN ON HIGH-QUALITY HOSPICE PROVIDERS:** Enact Hospice-Specific Compliance Measures (Legislative Blueprint, page 227)



2. **AVOID HARMFUL HOSPICE PAYMENT CUTS: RATES, MEDPAC CAP PROPOSAL**
 - a. Reject Efforts to Reduce the Hospice Aggregate Cap (Legislative Blueprint, page 214)
 - b. Oversee and Influence the Impact of Hospice Payment Reform (Legislative Blueprint, page 229)
 - c. Ensure the Full Market Basket Update for the Medicare Hospice Benefit (Legislative Blueprint, page 232)
3. **ESTABLISH A COMMUNITY-BASED PALLIATIVE CARE DEMONSTRATION:** Establish New Home- and Community-based Palliative Care Delivery and Payment Models to Address the Needs of Seriously Ill Medicare and Medicaid Patients (Legislative Blueprint, page 222)
4. **EXTEND AND CEMENT COVID-19-RELATED TELEHEALTH FLEXIBILITIES FOR HOSPICE**
 - a. Enable Effective Use of Tele-homecare and Emerging Technologies under Medicare and Medicaid (Legislative Blueprint, page 90)
 - b. Revise Requirements for Hospice Face-to-Face Encounters (Legislative Blueprint, page 237)
5. **ENSURE HIGH-QUALITY HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE DELIVERY IN MEDICARE ADVANTAGE:** Safeguard the Integrity of the Hospice Benefit as Part of Efforts to Test Coverage of Hospice Under the Medicare Advantage Benefit (Legislative Blueprint, page 216)

Private Duty Home Care Priorities

1. **ENACT ELDER CARE TAX CREDIT:** Support Tax Incentives for Family Caregivers (Legislative Blueprint, page 59)
2. **ENSURE ADEQUATE MEDICAID RATE AND RATE SETTING PROTECTIONS:** Ensure Appropriate Medicaid Rates for Home Care and Hospice (Legislative Blueprint, page 31)
3. **REFORM THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT TO FIT WITH HOME CARE DELIVERY MODELS:** Restore the Companionship Services Exemption to the Fair Labor Standards Act (Legislative Blueprint, page 74)
4. **SUPPORT QUALITY IMPROVEMENT IN PRIVATE DUTY HOME CARE:** Promote Development of Quality Measures for Voluntary Use in Private Duty Home Care (Legislative Blueprint, page 40)

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