

FUND THE FRONT LINES: How to Spend Some of the Supportive Living Program/Assisted Living COVID-19 Funds

\$60 Million in Accountability Payments

Workforce Retention/Recruitment: \$28 Million

- **\$10 million** for **Recruitment and Retention**. Provide funds to Supportive Living (SL) and Assisted Living (AL) communities for staff recruitment strategies. This could be for signing bonuses to pay educational expenses or other innovative ways for providers to attract necessary staff.
- **\$1 million** for **Funds to Support TNA-to-CNA Transition in Illinois**. To transition about 600 Temporary Nurse Assistants (TNAs) in SL and AL to Certified Nursing Assistants (CNAs) at about \$1,500 per person with the hope of more taking advantage of the opportunity.
- **\$5 million** for **Grants to Pay for Ongoing Continuing Education and Training** in infection control, cleaning products, and ongoing education. Post-pandemic emphasis will continue to be on enhanced education for appropriate procedures for infection prevention and improved quality of care in different situations and circumstances.
- **\$12 million** for **Frontline Hero Pay**. Frontline staff in SL and AL communities lived and worked through a very difficult year and provided the best care possible. The amount of the hero pay would essentially be an extra week of pay. The number was calculated by assuming an average wage of \$15 per hour for about 20,000 frontline employees ($\$15 \times 40 \times 20,000$).

Infrastructure: \$15 Million

- **\$5 million** to **Physical Plant Improvements**. Dedicated to designated public meeting places within communities for residents and clients to improve access to family and friends.
- **\$5 million** for **Technology Improvements**. To expand and improve access to digital resources and connections for residents and clients.
- **\$5 million** for **Grants for New HVAC and Air Filtration Systems**. Air handling systems and HVAC system deficiencies could have contributed to the spread of infection. Upgrading these systems should be a priority to prevent further spread going forward. Every community should be given access to these funds for improvement of their air handling systems.

Personal Protective Equipment: \$7 Million

\$7 million for **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Reserve**. To assist in the ongoing need for additional PPE to be in compliance with proper infection control policies and help with the inflation of costs.

Liability Insurance Costs: \$10 Million

\$10 million for **Temporary Liability Insurance Assistance**. To provide financial relief to struggling providers by providing one-time payments that assist providers with inflated liability insurance costs related to the pandemic.