

Connecticut Funders in Aging Affinity Group

The Community
Foundation for
Greater New
Haven

Connecticut
Community
Foundation

Fairfield County
Community
Foundation

Foundation for
Community Health

Jewish Community
Foundation of
Greater Hartford

The Peter and
Carmen Lucia
Buck Foundation

An affinity group of the
**Connecticut Council for
Philanthropy**
221 Main Street
Hartford, CT 06106
860-525-5585
www.ctphilanthropy.org

October 28, 2014

Commissioner Roderick Bremby
State of Connecticut
Department of Social Services
55 Farmington Avenue
Hartford, CT 06105-3730

Commissioner Bremby:

By way of introduction, we are members of the Connecticut Funders in Aging Affinity Group of the Connecticut Council for Philanthropy.

We are writing to urge DSS to conduct the analysis of the cost of providing services under the Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders and the pilot for the similar program for the disabled as required in the budget implementer bill - PA 14-217. We are also interested and willing to discuss how we might be able to partner to further this work.

As you know, Connecticut's population age 65+ is projected to increase rapidly in the coming years. In response to this demographic shift, Connecticut grantmakers from across the state came together several years ago to learn about the intersecting issues and consider how our work, individually and collectively, can contribute to healthier communities where people of all ages can participate fully.

One of our areas of focus is workforce development, especially in regard to community-based care. We all know that growing numbers of older adults want to age in their own community and our group supports the state's interest in emphasizing the aging consumer's choice. The Money Follows the Person Workforce Development Subcommittee determined that we will need 9,000 more direct care workers. In the next few years. With the right training programs and career opportunities combined with competitive wages, workers can be trained and retained in home care, thus enabling Connecticut residents to age in their homes and communities.

The ultimate purpose of the above-referenced cost analysis report is to determine the rates necessary to reimburse providers for home care services. We believe that adequate reimbursement is essential for building a sustainable system of quality home care services and that successful rebalancing of care depends on it. Thank you for your attention to this matter and please do not hesitate to contact us via the

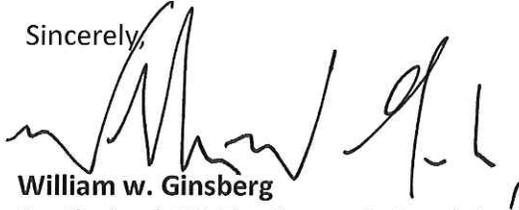
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Connecticut Funders in Aging Affinity Group

Page 2

Connecticut Council for Philanthropy office to talk about how we might work together on this very important issue.

Sincerely,



William W. Ginsberg

President and CEO, The Community Foundation for Greater New Haven



Paula Van Ness

President and CEO, Connecticut Community Foundation



Juanita T. James

President and Chief Executive Officer, Fairfield County Community Foundation



Nancy Heaton

CEO, Foundation for Community Health



Michael Johnston

CEO, Jewish Community Foundation of Greater Hartford



D. Ben Benoit

Executive Director, The Peter and Carmen Lucia Buck Foundation