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## The Long-Term Care Community Looks Forward to Working with State Leaders

**August 24 – ST. PAUL, MINN.** – On behalf of the senior care community across Minnesota, the Long-Term Care Imperative would like to thank the Minnesota Legislature for highlighting the critical caregiver shortage during this week’s Human Infrastructure Tour. A revitalized focus on the indispensable workforce that supports Minnesota’s one million seniors will position us to create a better future for older adults across the state.

At the end of the 2023 legislative session, the Legislature took an important step toward ensuring access to care for Minnesota seniors by approving increased state funding. The long-term care community looks forward to continued work to find lasting solutions for our seniors and their caregivers.

“We are grateful for the permanent investments made in Elderly Waiver, a Medicaid program that helps seniors access care in assisted living, adult day, and through other home and community-based services,” said Kari Thurlow, President and CEO of LeadingAge Minnesota. “We also appreciate the one-time funding for nursing homes that will ultimately benefit the people we serve, and we will continue our advocacy for ongoing investments to help pay caregivers the wages they deserve.”

“We know that even with the progress we made during the 2023 session, seniors still face an uphill battle when it comes to receiving access to care in their communities. Addressing the senior caregiver shortage with permanent state funding solutions must be part of policy conversations moving forward,” shared Patti Cullen, President/CEO of Care Providers of Minnesota.

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*The Long-Term Care Imperative (LTCI) is a partnership of Minnesota's two senior care provider associations – [Care Providers of Minnesota](#) and [LeadingAge Minnesota](#). LTCI members employ 80,000 professional caregivers in Minnesota, meeting the needs of seniors in all the places seniors call home – including short-term care, assisted living, memory care and skilled nursing homes.*