



Ursel J. McElroy, Director



Mike DeWine, Governor
Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Maureen Corcoran, Director

September 29, 2023

Dear Assisted Living Leaders,

The Ohio Department of Aging (ODA) and the Ohio Department of Medicaid (ODM) are pleased to announce the rollout of substantial enhancements to reimbursement rates for assisted living providers. As part of Governor Mike DeWine's commitment to ensuring long-term care facilities across Ohio have the necessary resources to deliver a high quality of care and high quality of life to all residents, and with the support of the General Assembly, these rate increases will enhance the accessibility and delivery of assisted living service.

Contingent upon approval of the HCBS waiver amendments by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), our departments will implement the following, effective January 1, 2024:

- Base tier: \$130 per day
- Memory care tier: \$155 per day

With rising labor costs, other workforce concerns, and increased operating expenses associated with meeting the evolving needs of residents, these rate increases will support providers as they continue delivering the highest level of care for Ohio's assisted living residents. Moreover, the memory care rate available to facilities certified to provide memory care will strengthen this growing and vital service.

With the public comment period on the Assisted Living Waiver and the Assisted Living Service on the MyCare Waiver closed as of September 27, the next steps are to work with CMS on the clarification and approval processes. The relevant ODM Ohio Administrative Code changes will go to clearance soon, followed by the official rule making process. Both the clearance and rule process provide opportunity for public comment.

As mentioned in the [July webinar for stakeholders](#), following the adoption of the State operating budget (H.B. 33), priority has been placed on putting provider rate increases into effect by January 1, 2024. However, additional work regarding assisted living reimbursement was also identified in the webinar and will commence next year, following the rate increases. Our departments will continue to communicate with stakeholders on these potential changes.

We are eager to roll out the assisted living rate increases on January 1, and understand that this is a continuing process. As part of our commitment to transparency, we sought to offer this timely update, and will provide additional updates as necessary.

Representatives from our respective departments will be available in the coming weeks to answer any questions you may have, and to ensure these rate increases are implemented as smoothly as possible.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ursel J. McElroy".

Ursel J. McElroy
Director, Ohio Department of Aging

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Maureen M. Corcoran".

Maureen M. Corcoran
Director, Ohio Department of Medicaid