

May 18, 2023

The Honorable Joe Biden
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden:

We, the undersigned organizations, thank you for including support for family caregivers in the Executive Order you issued on April 18. It is important to prioritize action to better recognize, assist, include, support, and engage our nation's family caregivers. We appreciate that your Executive Order takes important steps to do that. While their contributions are invaluable, the challenges caregivers face are many.

Most of us are, have been, or will be a family caregiver or will need help to live independently. This is a nonpartisan and ageless issue. Family caregivers are all ages, races, and ethnicities and cut across all segments of our population. They are the backbone of services and supports in this country, helping older adults, people with disabilities, and veterans live independently in their homes and communities. The physical, emotional, and financial challenges they face in their caregiving roles cannot be overstated, consistent with a recently released [poll](#) on family caregivers.

There is also a significant economic impact, as millions of family caregivers provide [\\$600 billion](#) annually in unpaid care to their loved ones, more than all out-of-pocket spending on health care in the U.S. in 2021. This includes assisting with meal preparation, eating, bathing and dressing, transportation, finding and coordinating services and other supports, managing finances and medications to medical/nursing tasks such as wound care, injections, and tube feedings, and so much more. The assistance they provide helps save taxpayer dollars by helping to delay or prevent more costly nursing home care and unnecessary hospital stays. Six in ten family caregivers are also balancing working with caregiving responsibilities. Family caregivers spend, on average, [26 percent of their income](#) (over \$7,200 annually) on caregiving.

We support last year's release of the 2022 National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers, resulting from the bipartisan RAISE Family Caregivers Act. The strategy's identification of nearly 500 actions to support family caregivers provides an important roadmap on actions that are and will be taken by the Administration, as well as actions that can be taken at the state and local level and by other stakeholders. It is important to turn this National Strategy into meaningful action, including ensuring that federal agencies follow through on their commitments. This is critical to make progress for family caregivers. We appreciate that your Executive Order builds on the strategy and could help a family caregiver caring for a Medicare beneficiary get the information they need, improve inclusion of family caregivers in hospital discharge planning and consider and support them in Hospital at Home Programs, provide support to those caring for loved ones with dementia and support military veteran caregivers, as

well as the paid direct care workforce. We hope you will continue to seize the opportunity to advance policies that would make it easier for family caregivers to find the resources and support they need; help ensure caregivers are appropriately included in their loved one's care, including in Medicare; make it easier to find paid care, including by attracting and retaining a strong paid workforce; and provide financial and other relief, such as through a caregiver tax credit, respite, and workplace flexibility.

We are glad you recognize the importance of family caregivers to our nation, states, communities, and families. During Older Americans Month and the Month of the Military Caregiver, we come together to thank you and urge you and your Administration to continue action to preserve and improve family caregivers' own health and well-being. We look forward to ongoing work with you on this critical issue and ensuring tangible results for family caregivers. If your staff has any questions, please contact Rhonda Richards (rrichards@aarp.org) in Government Affairs at AARP.

Sincerely,

100 Black Men of America, Inc.
AARP
ADvancing States
Aging Life Care Association®
Aging Well Eldercare
AHIP
Alliance for Aging Research
Allies for Independence
ALS Association
Alzheimer's Foundation of America
American Academy of Nursing
American Association of People with Disabilities
American Association on Health and Disability
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American Heart Association
American Society on Aging
Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations (AAPCHO)
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Autism Society of America
Autism Speaks
Blue Star Families
California Coalition on Family Caregiving
Care.com
Caregiver Action Network
Caring Across Generations
Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation
Coalition to End Social Isolation and Loneliness
Coalition to Transform Advanced Care (C-TAC)
Diverse Elders Coalition

Elizabeth Dole Foundation
Family Caregiver Alliance
Family Voices
Fight Colorectal Cancer
Grayce
Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network
Healthcare Leadership Council
Home Care Association of America
Huntington's Disease Society of America (HDSA)
Japanese American Citizens League
Justice in Aging
Lakeshore Foundation
Little Tokyo Service Center
Long-Term Quality Alliance
Medicare Rights Center
myFloc
National Alliance for Caregiving
National Asian Pacific Center on Aging
National Association for Geriatric Education
National Association of Social Workers (NASW)
National Association of State Long Term Care Ombudsman Programs (NASOP)
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Black Justice Coalition
National Brain Tumor Society
National Coalition on Black Civic Participation
National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare
National Consumer Voice for Quality Long-Term Care
National Council on Aging
National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)
National Health Council
National Indian Council on Aging, Inc. (NICOA)
National Marrow Donor Program/Be The Match
National MLTSS Health Plan Association
National MS Society
National Partnership for Healthcare and Hospice Innovation
National Patient Advocate Foundation
National Respite Coalition
National Spine Health Foundation
Paralyzed Veterans of America
Parkinson's Foundation
PHI
Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers
ShareTheCaregiving Inc. aka Share The Care™
Special Needs Alliance
The Arc of the United States
The Black Women's Roundtable

The Gerontological Society of America
The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research
Third Way
Triage Cancer
United States of Care
UsAgainstAlzheimer's
USAging
Village to Village Network
Well Spouse Association