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Research on Workforce Crisis Initiative Continues

The Agency is pleased to announce a second year of **Dr. Kathy Stevens'** work on our Long-Term Care Workforce Crisis Initiative through The Dayton Foundation's Del Mar Encore Fellows program.

The Agency is dedicated toward finding answers to the problem of workforce shortages that adversely impact our ability to meet the long-term care needs of older adults and people living with disabilities in our region. With Dr. Stevens' experience and efforts, and building on the information she gathered in year one, we hope to uncover innovative ways to provide care where and when it's needed.

One such innovation is development of a personal care aide training program for displaced customer service workers. Currently the number of consumers who can be served and the level of service provided in our region is driven by the number of aides in the area and the locations that they are willing to work. Over the next year, Dr. Stevens will take the lead in developing this program, made possible through a grant received from the Association for Community Living and the Ohio Department of Aging.

The Del Mar Encore Fellows program matches nonprofits with highly-skilled, older professionals to work on significant, high-impact issues that can make a major difference in our community. The Agency was matched with Dr. Stevens in 2019 to measure the scope of finding and keeping workers who provide direct services to older adults in our nine-county region.