



## A MESSAGE TO OUR FRIENDS AND FAMILIES

Since 2017, nineteen nursing homes—10% of the nursing homes in the state of Washington—have closed. Nearly 70% of the patients in skilled nursing facilities rely on the State Medicaid program, yet rates are so inadequate that facilities are being forced to close.

When nursing homes close, people are harmed. Patients suffer transfer trauma. Families are unable to provide much needed support when patients are transferred out of their areas. Caregivers suffer wage interruption and job loss, as well as grief and loss.

**The Legislature must understand that a budget process that puts people at risk is unacceptable.**

We all have a role in this effort—and you can help. Please add your voice to that of thousands of Washingtonians who are asking the Legislature to address this funding crisis in 2020.

**Please sign up for the Washington Health Action Network, [www.wahealthactionnetwork.com](http://www.wahealthactionnetwork.com), and send an email to our legislators asking that they resolve this crisis immediately.**

Our seniors paid their way—they built the schools, roads, libraries and communities we all enjoy. It's time for us to ask the Legislature to step up and support our seniors in their most vulnerable times.

Thank you for your consideration.

*P.S. You can also like and follow the Washington Health Action Network Facebook page, and ask your friends and others to lend their voices to this important effort.*

