

Building the Direct Care Workforce: Supporting our Families, Communities, and Economy

This strategy brief is brought to you by the NH Alliance for Healthy Aging (NH AHA). We are committed to creating communities that support older adults and their families and where New Hampshire's culture, policies, and services advance health, independence, and dignity for all of us as we get older.

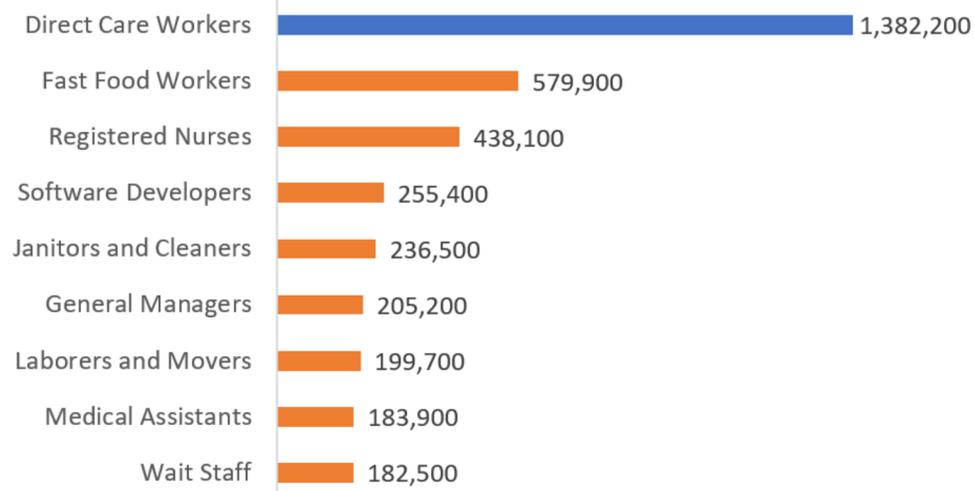


Direct care workers are integral to the health care system, communities, and families, and provide critical care to individuals.

Performing 70-80% of paid hands-on care including tasks like assistance with personal hygiene, light housekeeping, and medication management, they are known as the “eyes and ears” of the care system. Workers are employed across a variety of settings and provide respite and assurance to family caregivers that loved ones are well cared for.

As many people are living longer and want to age at home, there is a growing demand for direct care workers. Nationally, one of the fastest growing careers in the country, the direct care workforce will add 1.4 million new positions by 2026.

U.S. Occupations with the Most Projected Job Openings due to Growth (2016 - 2026)



Source: PHI, National Workforce Data Center



Many families can't find the direct care workers they need. Low wages, poor benefits, and a lack of career advancement opportunities often encourage direct care workers to seek other employment. Half leave their jobs in less than a year.

DID YOU KNOW?



72% INCREASE

in NH direct care positions from 2016-2026



\$13.84 PER HOUR

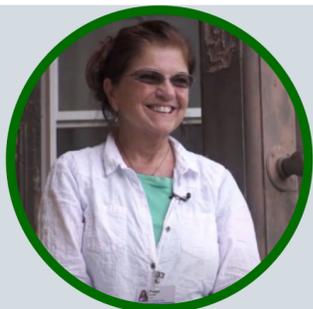
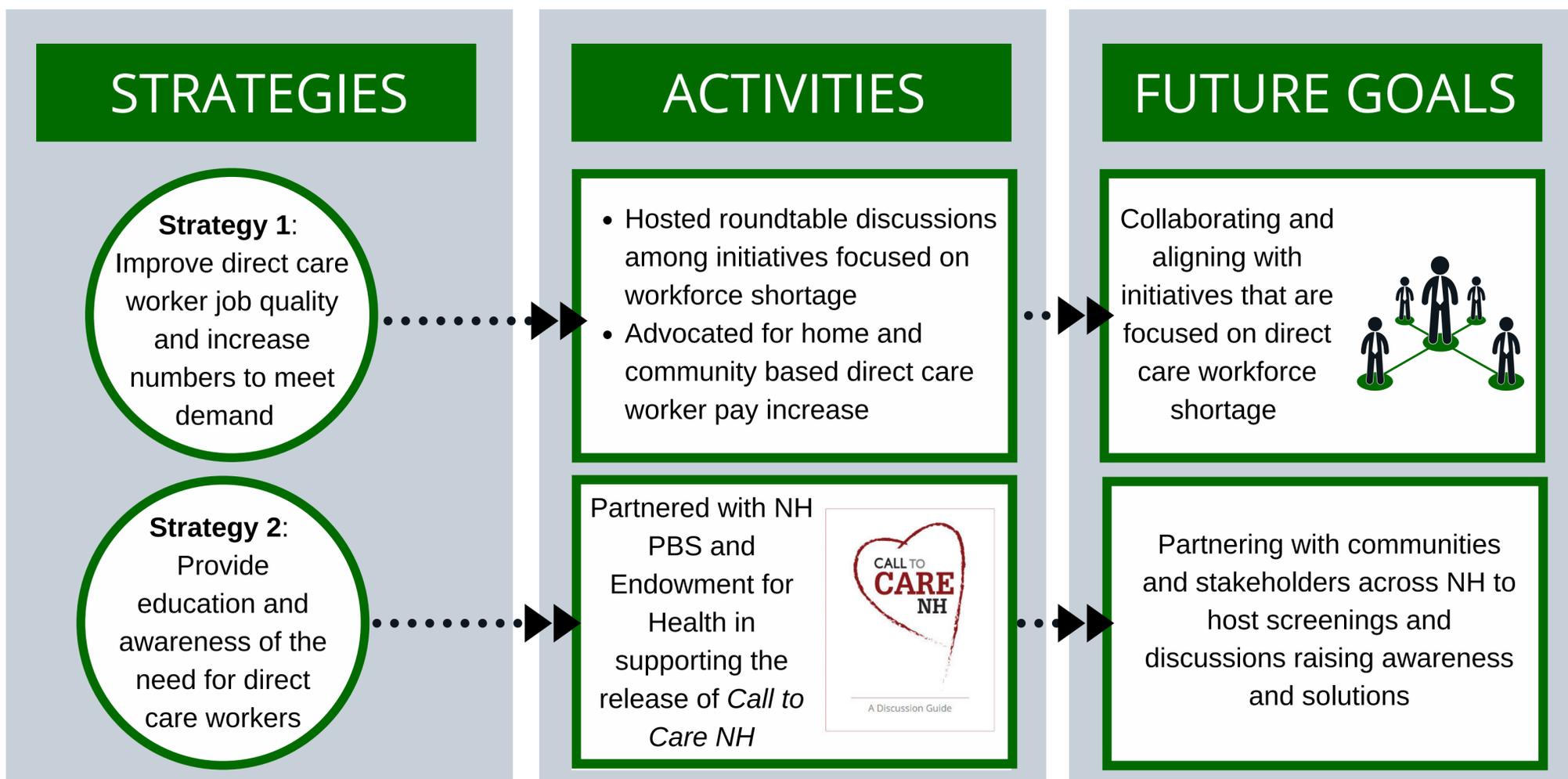
NH Average direct care worker hourly wage



47 YEARS

Median age of home care workers

AHA Workforce Activities



Peggy Drouin,

Featured, Direct Care worker

Call to Care NH is 30-minute segment produced by NH PBS and the Endowment for Health. The program explores the challenges presented as more of us are living longer and the demand for people who provide care is growing faster than the supply. The program also discusses the rewards and innovative solutions to create a better future for older people in NH and those that care for them.



Roger Maurier,

Featured, Direct Care worker

HOST A CALL TO CARE NH SCREENING

Call to Care NH is an effective way of bringing the conversation about the importance of the direct care workforce to our communities.

Hosting a screening is something anyone can do!

Please contact us with questions or for assistance

ACCESSING CALL TO CARE NH



Online at:
<https://www.pbs.org/show/call-care-nh/>



Request a DVD from
 Laura Davie at:
Laura.Davie@unh.edu

CALL TO CARE NH COMPANION GUIDE

Call to Care NH has a companion discussion guide which can be used for community conversations here: <https://tinyurl.com/y7zk3shj>

Want to Learn More?



Visit our website!

www.nhaha.info



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NH Alliance for Healthy Aging



#NHAHA603



Contact us!

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