

H.542 – Appropriations Bill
Vermont Association of Adult Day Services
Senate Appropriations Committee
April 16, 2019

Adult Day programs are located in twelve of the thirteen Vermont counties (none in Grand Isle). We play a critical role in the continuum of care for Vermonters – in fact DAIL refers to Adult Day as the cornerstone of long-term care in Vermont.

Adult Day programs give Vermonters the option to remain at home, delaying institutionalization for as long as possible, or perhaps eliminating it completely. This allows caregivers to remain productively employed, and it provides some respite for them. Not only do we provide care, including nursing care, we also provide the socialization that is needed for successful aging. This helps program participants reach their maximum potential and remain respected members of their families and communities.

The Vermont Association of Adult Day Services (VAADS) requests that the Senate Appropriations Committee support the 2% increase in Medicaid reimbursement approved in H.542 by the House. Currently Adult Day Services are reimbursed at the rate of \$16.40/hour. That rate covers the following services:

- Skilled Nursing Services
 - Medication management, health oversight, wound care, glucose screen, vitals, G-tube/catheter/colostomy maintenance, oximetry, and more
- Transportation
 - Arrange for transportation to and from the program
- Social Work Services
 - Counsel program participants, coordinate services with case managers, support caregivers, confer with Adult Protective Services, refer to mental health services, etc.
- Physical Exercise
 - Daily exercise program, including such things as dance movement, yoga, strength training, walking, PT follow up exercises, etc.
- Assistance with Daily Activities
 - Toileting, feeding, transferring, bathing, nail care, dressing, etc.
- Showering
 - Full shower and shampoo
- Diversified Activity Program
 - Games, art, baking, gardening, socialization, lectures, education, reading, entertainment, pet visits, intergenerational visits, and much more.
- Light Breakfast
 - Fruit, muffin, toast, tea, coffee, hot cocoa - in keeping with USDA requirements
- Noon Meal
 - Meeting USDA requirements for major meal of the day
- Afternoon Snack
 - Cheese/crackers, fruit, occasional treat
- Respite for Caregivers
 - Provide an opportunity for caregivers to continue working, run errands, get a break
- Caregivers Support Group
 - Provide support and education – open to the general public

The 2% increase will help Adult Day programs meet the costs associated with the provision of these services. In addition, if efforts to increase the minimum wage move forward, it will be that much more difficult to meet our expenses with our current Medicaid reimbursement rate.

Thank you for your consideration.