Good Shepherd Home Care 765 Westminster Avenue Suite 304 Providence, RI 02903 Phone: (401) 409-2928 Fax: (401) 409-2941

Good Shepherd Home Care

Vebsite: www.GoodShepherdRI.com Email: Info@GoodShepherdRI.com



Meuris Moquete

Good Shepherd Home Care 765 Westminster Avenue Suite 304 Providence, RI 02903

Phone: (401) 409-2928

Email: MMoquete@GoodShepherdRl.com

Apr 29, 2025

The Honorable Marvin Abney, Chairman

Committee on Finance House of Representatives State of Rhode Island 82 Smith Street, Room 35 Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chairman Abney,

My name is Meuris Moquete, and I am the Co-Owner of Good Shepherd Home Care. I helped establish this agency with a deep belief in what home care represents — dignity, safety, and healing delivered where it matters most: at home.

When we first opened our doors, we did it with limited resources but unlimited faith. We were investing in people — caregivers and clients — and in a future where home care could be the foundation, not the fallback, of our state's healthcare system. That vision is becoming real. But it is also fragile.

Today, I write to urge you to support **House Bill 5774** and **Senate Bill 255** in the FY2026 budget. These two bills are critical not just to sustaining what we've built, but to allowing it to grow responsibly and with integrity.

The **Medicaid rate floor** ensures that managed care organizations cannot devalue the rates set by the General Assembly. Without that protection, our financial footing weakens — and with it, our ability to retain qualified staff, expand services, and ensure consistency of care.

Equally important is the **\$1.56 per hour behavioral health wage enhancement**. This program has not only improved the quality of care for individuals facing behavioral health conditions — it has helped agencies like ours reach the state's most vulnerable populations. It has allowed us to take on new clients, extend services into communities often overlooked, and build the kind of infrastructure that makes healthcare more human.

We are preparing to expand into non-emergency medical transportation services, strengthening our wraparound support model. But none of that can happen if the caregivers at the heart of this system are discouraged, underpaid, or driven out by policy decisions that fail to account for their worth.

As someone who has invested time, capital, and vision into this work, I ask you to stand with us — and with the people we serve — by including **House Bill 5774** and **Senate Bill 255** in the FY2026 budget. Help us preserve the foundation we've built and protect the care that so many Rhode Islanders depend on.

Sincerely,

Meuris Moquete

Co-Owner

Good Shepherd Home Care

x Meuris Moquete