

POLICY PRIORITY

Provide Medicaid Access to Assisted Living in Pennsylvania

What is Assisted Living?

A home and community-based service setting that provides food, shelter, personal care, assistance or 24-hour supervision and supplemental health care services for a period exceeding 24 hours to seniors who require assistance or supervision in daily activities and desire to age in place.

Personal Care & Daily Activity Support

Assistance with bathing, dressing, grooming, and medication management.

Supervision & Safety

7-day support available to ensure comfort in a homelike setting.

Independence & Quality of Life

Maintaining independence while providing individuals with the care they need.

Social Stimulation

An environment focused on well-being that encourages social engagement.

Costly Impact of Social Isolation

Seniors living alone face higher healthcare costs than those receiving assisted living support. Providing care in assisted living could help prevent these costly outcomes.¹

FOR SOCIALLY ISOLATED OLDER ADULTS

Medicare spends \$134 more per month (\$1,608 per year), compared with those who are socially engaged.²



60+ AGING
POPULATION
IN PA +14%



Older Adult Population Growth

From 2020 to 2030, the aging population in Pennsylvania ages 60 through 79 is projected to increase by 10%.³

3.4M OLDER ADULTS

THE FIFTH-HIGHEST TOTAL IN THE COUNTRY.⁴

¹Source: PALA. The Time for Medicaid Is Now. 2024, White paper

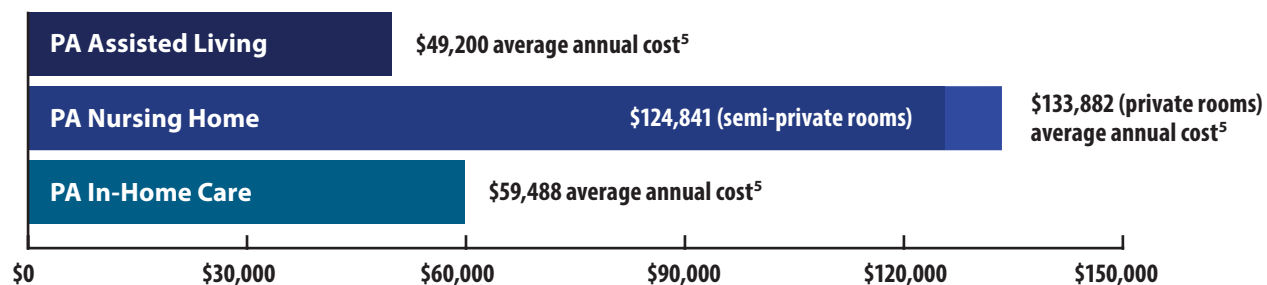
²Source: Harvard-Stanford-AARP

³Source: Center for Rural Pennsylvania

⁴Source: Aging our Way, PA

Cost-Effective Support

Assisted living services can be a more cost-effective alternative compared to a nursing home or home care. Unfortunately, many older Pennsylvanians have limited access to these services due to a lack of Medicaid support.



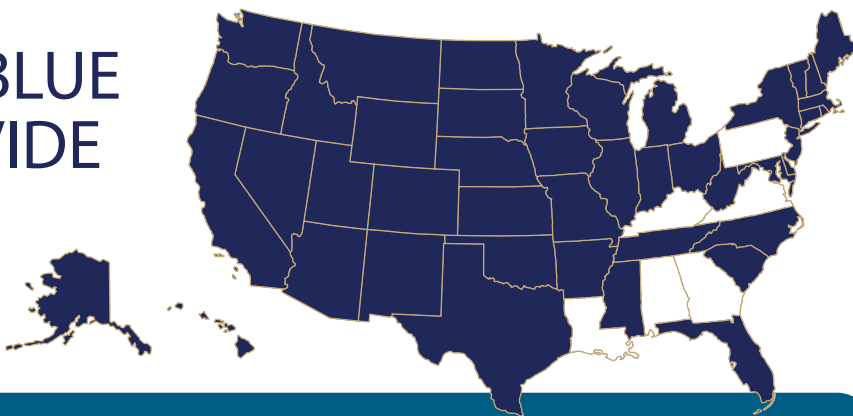
\$43.4 BILLION

ACCORDING TO SOME ESTIMATES, ASSISTED LIVING ANNUALLY SAVES MEDICAID ALONE \$43.4 BILLION IN ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURES NATION-WIDE.⁶

By providing Medicaid access to assisted living, Pennsylvania can:

- Better allocate resources to be delivered at the right time and place
- Give more seniors access to staff who regularly monitor their health, provide prompt intervention and preventative care as needed
- Maximize the use of limited state funds
- Empower seniors to age in place with dignity

STATES SHADED BLUE CURRENTLY PROVIDE MEDICAID TO ASSISTED LIVING:



Providing Medicaid coverage for assisted living gives Pennsylvania seniors greater access to needed services and, of course, choice in how and where they receive services. As our population of older adults continues to grow, it is vital that the aging services ecosystem meets the needs of seniors in the most appropriate and cost-effective manner possible. This will be a life-changing opportunity for all older adults living throughout our communities.

- David Fenoglietto, President & CEO, Lutheran SeniorLife, Butler County

⁵Source: PA Department of Aging, 2021

⁶Source: Argentum, The Value of Assisted Living for America and Caring for our Aging Nation: Policy Solutions to Increase Access to Assisted Living