



The
Washington
Observer

Assisted living is left behind, advocates say

Article by Sara Kassabian, April 4, 2025

“The House budget also proposed [changing existing statutes](#) to postpone a pay increase for providers working at assisted living facilities serving 75% or fewer Medicaid patients...State law says assisted living provider wages must be rebased based on the best available cost and wage data—which is from 2024—every two years...**Less state money to pay wages for assisted living providers and nursing home workers could lead to a two-tiered system and facility closures.**”



Editorial Opinion, February 11, 2025

“70 percent of adults who reach the age of 65 are likely at some point in their

lives to need long-term nursing care supports and services...While state lawmakers in [recent years have addressed concerns](#) that improved pay for those providing care... **that need has been largely met in piecemeal fashion**, dependent on renewals, rather than a sustainable, long-term commitment to providing well-funded care.”

IN OUR VIEW

Editorial: Boost state Medicaid funding for long-term care

With more in need of skilled nursing and assisted-living services, funding must keep up to retain staff.

THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW State must boost Medicaid funding for assisted living

“Today, the care that so many rely on in assisted living is **on the precipice of a crisis as one-time state funding expires this year and we face a stark disparity in Medicaid funding levels** compared to other long-term care services... Our state Legislature is confronting difficult financial decisions due to our current budget deficit, but **without a replacement for the bridge funds we currently receive, we will have to shut our doors.**”

Alejandra Perdomo-Menera is the Executive Director of Cherrywood Care Assisted Living in Spokane. ([guest column](#), February 27, 2025)

Long-term care provides vital services in Washington. Without funding, it's in danger



“Our state legislature has recognized that the state-funded Medicaid rates are wildly insufficient to maintain the number of [assisted living] facilities we need in our communities...**Long-term care communities like ours provide stability and preventative healthcare that breaks the cycle of over-reliance on emergency rooms and crisis centers.** If this bridge funding ends, fifty-five facilities across the state like ours are at risk of closure.”

Stephanie Ober is the Director of Resident Services at Sixth Avenue Senior Living in Tacoma. ([guest column](#), March 25, 2025)

The Seattle Times

State budget: Don't forsake older, vulnerable adults

Letter by Tom Gallucci, Executive Director, Parkside Retirement Assisted Living, February 14, 2025

The Columbian

Lower barriers to care

Letter by Jonathan Su, Executive Director, Hazel Dell Assisted Living, February 13, 2025