

PA Frontline and SEIU HCPA Training and Education Fund Partner on Innovation and Improving Care

PA Frontline, in partnership with SEIU Healthcare Pennsylvania's Training & Education Fund (TEF), is excited to launch a new series of specialized training programs for participant-directed care workers.

The new endeavor is being funded by a \$600,000 grant from the PA Department of Labor & Industry (L&I). These unique, specialized trainings are aimed at not only enhancing care for participants but also improving job quality and retention in the direct care workforce.

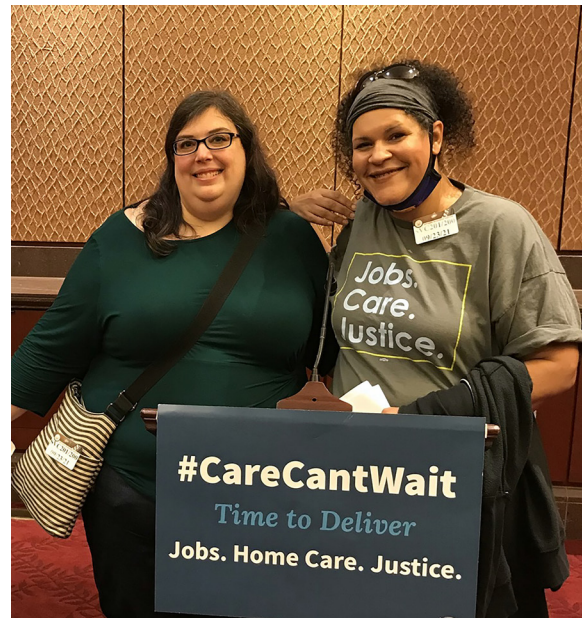
The courses will focus on specific advanced care needs many caregivers encounter with their participants, including Aging & Physical Disabilities, Cognitive & Behavioral Impairment, Diabetes Care, and Sensory Disabilities. The trainings will provide caregivers with important safety guidelines and client-specific skills to understand the unique and complex physical, cognitive, behavioral, and nutritional needs of the people they care for.

"I'm most excited about these trainings because they're a deep dive into common chronic illnesses that we as caregivers have to deal with on a daily basis," said Erica Payne, a home care worker who's taken many PA Frontline courses. "I'm looking forward to learning more about the full spectrum of conditions my participants live with and understanding how to advocate with the interim team. I want to bring a well-rounded approach to keep the people I care for safe and healthy."

Each of the tracks will be instructor-led and held virtually so as to be easily accessible to everyone – especially for those in rural areas of the state. PA Frontline will also provide iPads where technology is a barrier to learning. Tracks will be populated with cohorts of 7-10 students, giving them a chance to network and share best practices – an opportunity not often available to direct care workers.

Caregivers who complete these new courses will enjoy a better understanding of the needs of their clients and increased confidence in the care they can provide. This new program will raise up home care as a profession and help others recognize the complex nature of the work home care workers do.

PA Frontline and the TEF are committed to enhancing the quality of long-term care and are excited to be launching this new endeavor in partnership with the PA Dept. of L&I. They continue to innovate, educate, and solve industry problems with a focused expertise in developing engaging content and creating opportunities for long-term caregivers everywhere.



Credit: SEIU Healthcare Pennsylvania TEF