## **Center for Disability Rights, Inc.**

October 23, 2023

## Re: [UPDATE] NYS Home Care Aide Minimum Wage Increase

Dear CDPAS Consumer/Attendant,

We are sending this letter to remind people about changes in state law regarding attendant wages.

First, the Center for Disability Rights (CDR) truly appreciates and values the work you do to ensure that people with disabilities can live in their homes. You make our mission - and freedom - possible. Because CDR recognizes the importance of our attendants, improving attendant wages has been long-standing advocacy priority and - for as long as we have operated as a fiscal intermediary - we have worked to ensure that we maximize the funds that go to our attendants.

After years of dedicated advocacy, we were thrilled that CDR was able to help secure a multi-year plan to increase attendant wages. Our advocacy with the state added a dollar an hour to the initial wage increase for an upstate attendant. That doubled the first increase. It also means that because of CDR's advocacy EVERY attendant in upstate New York is making an extra dollar an hour.

The state had agreed to increase the attendant wage on October 1, 2023, however - to balance the state budget - the Governor and Legislature delayed that increase until January 1, 2024. At that time, the wage will increase to \$17.55 per hour. See the attached notice from the state.

We know people were anticipating the wage increase in October and understand how frustrating this is. Consider joining CDR's advocacy work to address this. To be added to our advocacy list so you can get updates and help advocate for improved attendant wages, email your contact information to Max Rodriguez, CDR's Manager of Governmental Affairs - MaxRodriguez@CDRNYS.org.

Should you have any questions or need further clarification, please contact our Human Resources department.

Sincerely, CDPAS Team

[Enclosure]

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