



STOP Cuts to Nursing Home Care

May 30, 2011

Number 10

Wound Care Services in Danger with Rate Cut



We Need Your Help!

Please undo the Medicaid rate cut to nursing home residents. We must protect the health and well-being of residents, and prevent 7,000 health care workers from losing their jobs.

Last year, when Margaret Tinney of Springfield slipped off of a stepstool in her dining room, she had no idea just how much damage the fall really caused. As Tinney landed she collided with her dining room table, not only hurting her foot, but causing a puncture wound that Tinney was unaware of. And, while the injuries she sustained did eventually land her in the hospital, the wound remained undiscovered for some time—during which the wound was worsening and Tinney was losing blood. By the time Tinney was moved to Capitol Care Center in Springfield to continue her recovery, the wound, located in a high pressure area, had developed into a Stage 4 Skin Ulcer, the deepest and most debilitating wound level.

Capitol Care Center offers a specialized wound care program that they are able to customize depending on the resident's needs. When Tinney arrived, the caring and compassionate staff at Capitol Care Center worked closely with her doctors to develop a treatment plan, which included both skin care and therapy, to not only heal her wound, but improve her other health issues as well. Now, a year later Mrs. Tinney has improved so much in her overall health that she is preparing to go home soon. Her wound has almost

completely healed, thanks to the specialized care she received, and she is beginning to walk on her own again. "Our team feels very proud that we are helping Margaret recover from her injury and achieve her goal of returning to her home," said Cindy Schaaf, administrator.

Tinney, and the many seniors like her who receive care in a skilled nursing facility for wounds and other ailments, rely on Medicaid funds to help them afford the special care that they need when injuries and illnesses occur. The Medicaid rate cut will put the health and well-being of this fragile population in danger. Please undo the budget cut to help these seniors recover and return to their homes.

Budget Cut Endangers Seniors

- Health care services at risk
- Increased hospitalizations
- Fewer seniors going home
- \$70 million in federal funds lost
- Safety reforms endangered
- 7,000 jobs lost

