

SENIORS FIRST



The Changing Face of Long Term Care

2009—Issue 1

MDS Reimbursement System Achieves Great Success

- ✓ Over the past three years, the Illinois legislature has been faithful in continuing its commitment to the five-year phase-in of the resident-centered MDS reimbursement system. We thank Illinois legislators for their ongoing dedication to quality care for Illinois seniors.
- ✓ We need to continue the fourth, phased-in installment of the groundbreaking, resident-centered MDS Medicaid reimbursement system at a cost of \$90 million (\$36 million GRF).
- ✓ The MDS reimbursement system has been extremely successful in enhancing resident health, independence and well being. We have made great advances in providing cutting edge health services to Illinois' elderly citizens. Illinois needs to build upon its track record of success.

Increase in Number and Percentage of Residents Receiving Care Services Due to the MDS Reimbursement System

Changes between July 2006 when the MDS reimbursement system was first funded and January 2009

<u>Type of Care Service</u>	<u># MORE Seniors Receiving Service</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
Pressure ulcer prevention	2653	8.25%
Pain management	847	6.08%
Infectious disease treatment	507	9.29%
Complex respiratory care	200	20.30%
End stage care	109	21.41%
Ventilator care	32	13.45%
Cognitive improvement services	4600	18.19%

The MDS Medicaid reimbursement system has been the most successful care improvement methodology in the history of Illinois nursing homes by focusing on resident independence, functional improvement, preventative care, high skilled care, rehabilitation and holistic treatment of both the body and the mind.

Between July 2006 when the MDS Medicaid reimbursement system was first funded and January of 2009, there have been some dramatic increases in the number of residents receiving specialized care services in Illinois nursing homes. For instance, because of the MDS reimbursement system, there are now 2,653 more seniors on pressure ulcer prevention programs and 847 more residents receiving services for reducing chronic pain.

Many of these increased services are an investment in the future of senior care – greater independence, greater self-reliance and cost savings from reduced hospitalizations. The MDS system has been a huge success in strengthening Illinois' safety net of care for the more than 52,000 Medicaid clients living in Illinois nursing facilities.

The progress evident in the first three years of the five-year MDS reimbursement system phase-in needs to continue to fully reform Illinois' long term care system. **The fourth year investment of \$90 million (\$36 million GRF) would bring the MDS system to 75% of full funding for quality 21st century senior care services in Illinois nursing homes.** We must build upon the success we are achieving in optimizing care for Illinois seniors.