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April 9, 2025

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## Championing Family Caregiver Financial Wellbeing

On March 12, Representatives Tom Suozzi (D-NY) and John Moolenaar (R-MI) introduced the [Well-Being Insurance for Seniors to Be at Home \(WISH\) Act \(H.R. 2082\)](#), that would establish a national long-term care insurance program to ensure older adults can age with dignity at home. The National Alliance for Caregiving (NAC) supports this bold step toward addressing the growing long-term care crisis and lessening the burden on family caregivers.

On April 7, our CEO, Jason Resendez, participated in a panel discussion on Capitol Hill hosted by Congressman Souzzi to discuss the high cost of long-term care and the impacts of those rising costs on family caregivers who shoulder billions of hours of caregiving responsibilities. Jason stressed the value of the benefits created via the WISH Act that would enable eligible older adults with financial assistance to access and afford long-term care at home, improve health outcomes, and support family caregivers.



Photo (left to right): Congressman Tom Suozzi (D-NY), Marc Cohen (UMass of Boston), Adam Bezman (Trustmark), and Jason Resendez (NAC)

## Medicaid Makes Care Possible

### Medicaid Remains Under Threat

Drastic cuts to Medicaid are still under consideration. These cuts would weaken the very foundation of caregiving in America, reducing access to home- and community-based services, destabilizing the direct care workforce, and placing greater strain on family caregivers. Through our [Act on RAISE Campaign](#), two letters were sent to Congress urging protection of Medicaid from harmful cuts. The letters provided a powerful reminder that our nation's care ecosystem relies on robust public investment in Medicaid to support family caregivers, older adults, and people with disabilities.

[Read the Letters](#)

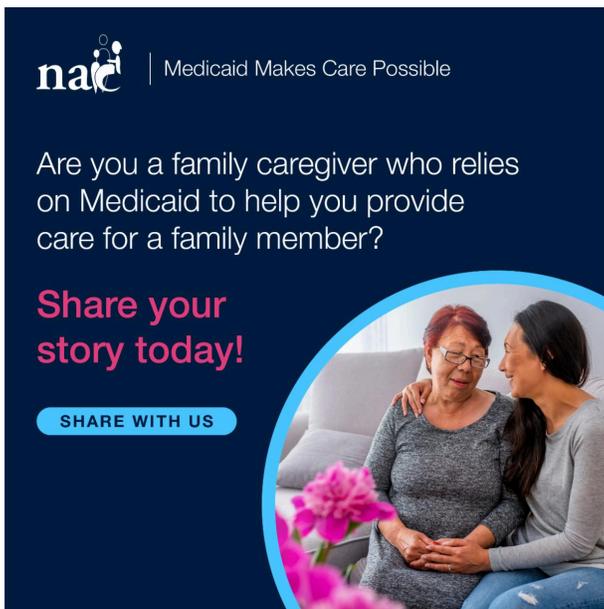
### Share Your Medicaid Caregiving Experience

Are you caring for a loved one with the help of Medicaid? Whether you rely on home- and community-based services, respite care, or self-directed support programs, your story can help drive change.

We're collecting caregiving stories to elevate the lived experiences behind Medicaid policies. Help us show decision-makers the real-life impact of Medicaid programs

on families like yours. Your voice helps shape a stronger, more equitable caregiving future.

## Share Your Story



**nac** | Medicaid Makes Care Possible

Are you a family caregiver who relies on Medicaid to help you provide care for a family member?

**Share your story today!**

SHARE WITH US

## Take Action to Protect Medicaid

With Medicaid at risk, it is critical to mobilize to raise awareness of the value of Medicaid and to advocate protecting essential Medicaid programs such as home- and community-based services/consumer- directed care, respite care, and other crucial resources and supports for family caregivers.

- [Read our Medicaid Policy Brief](#)
- [Take Action with Our Toolkit](#)

## CARE POLICY UPDATES

This month, NAC proudly endorsed several pieces of federal legislation that impact family caregivers.

### **Lifespan Respite Care Reauthorization Act (S. 830)**

This bill extends critical funding for respite care programs, a lifeline for family caregivers balancing intense responsibilities at great personal cost. We thank Reps. Langworthy (NY) and Tokuda (HI) and Senators Baldwin (WI) and Collins (ME) for championing this support. [Read the press release](#)

### **Alleviating Barriers for Caregivers (ABC) Act (S. 1227/H.R. 2491)**

Reintroduced by Sen. Edward Markey (MA) and bipartisan leaders, this legislation aims to simplify access to federal programs like Medicare, reducing administrative

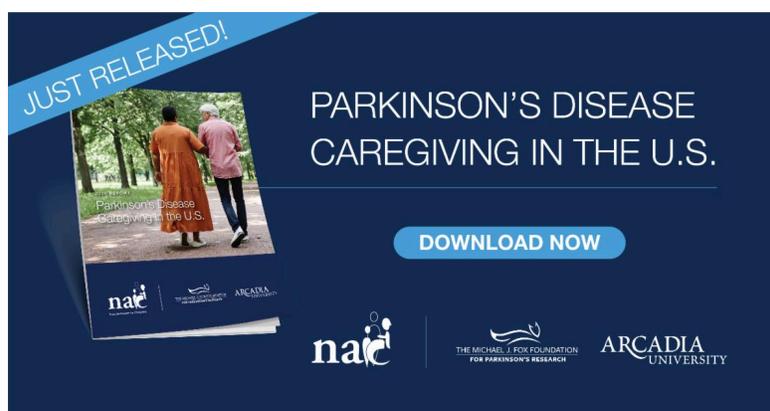
burden and easing stress for millions of caregivers. [Read the press release](#)

### ICYMI: NAC Statements on Federal Government Changes

- [NAC Statement on HHS Restructuring and ACL](#)
- [NAC CEO Statement on SSA Identity Verification Changes](#)

We remain committed to lifting caregiver voices and driving policy solutions that protect their well-being—no matter the changes ahead.

## Recognizing April's Health Observances



April marks **National Parkinson's Awareness Month**, a time to elevate the experiences of individuals living with Parkinson's Disease and the family caregivers who support them. In our recent report, "**Parkinson's Disease: Caregiving in the U.S.**", NAC sheds light on the unique challenges Parkinson's caregivers face; including increasing emotional stress, financial burden, and the need for tailored support and respite services.

### Key findings:

- **Prolonged caregiving journey:** More than 60% of caregivers have been providing PD care for more than a year, while 35% have done so for five years or longer.
- **Complex care needs:** Nearly half (47%) of PwP require memory-related support, adding to the complexity of care.
- **Employment challenges:** Fifty percent of PD caregivers juggle employment while caregiving, working an average of 37 hours per week.
- **Resource gaps:** More than one-third (35%) of caregivers say they need more resources to keep PwP safe at home, while 43% cite the need for tools to manage their own stress and health.

This month, we recommit to advocating for systems and policies that better support families managing the complexities of Parkinson's care.

[Explore the full report](#)



April is also **National Donate Life Month**, honoring the gift of organ, eye, and tissue donation and the caregivers behind every transplant journey. Our "**Transplant Caregiving in the U.S.**" brief explore the financial, emotional, and logistical challenges caregivers face throughout the transplant process, often with little formal support.

We recognize and stand with transplant caregivers, whose stories remind us that caregiving doesn't end after surgery—it evolves.

Access NAC's transplant caregiving brief and policy recommendations

[View the briefs](#)

## PBS Documentary on Caregiving

NAC is a proud partner of '**Caregiving**', a powerful new PBS documentary executive produced by Bradley Cooper and narrated by Uzo Aduba. Premiering June 24, Caregiving brings national attention to the experiences of family and professional caregivers, highlighting both the daily challenges and deep impact of this essential work.

Streaming begins May 27 on PBS.org and the PBS App. [Read the press release](#)



## CAREGIVING IN THE NEWS

### STAT NEWS

Our CEO pens a letter to address how deep Medicaid cuts impact family caregivers and direct care workers. [Read](#)

### NEXT AVENUE

In an article discussing the impact of recent policy changes on older workers, our CEO expressed concern on the restructuring of HHS and hinderance on the implementation of the National Strategy to Support Family Caregivers. [Read](#)

### MOTHER JONES

Jason Resendez, NAC's CEO, was featured voicing deep concern over the HHS restructuring and its impact on family caregivers. The piece underscores the potential harm to programs that support older adults and people with disabilities; programs that family caregivers rely on. [Read](#)

### MCKNIGHT'S

NAC's new *"Parkinson's Disease: Caregiving in the U.S"* report was featured highlighting the emotional, financial and physical challenges caregivers face and the critical implications for the future of senior living. The article reinforces the

need for more inclusive policies and support services tailored to families navigating Parkinson's care. [Read](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April

# 7-11



**National Public Health Week (NPHW)** is being observed from April 7–13, 2025, marking its 30th anniversary. Organized by the American Public Health Association (APHA), NPHW unites communities nationwide to recognize public health contributions and address key health issues. This year's theme, "It Starts Here," emphasizes the importance of individual and community actions in promoting health and well-being. Each day focuses on a specific public health topic, providing resources and events to educate and engage the public. [Learn more.](#)

April

# 16

**Caregiver Training Services Implementation Guide Webinar**

JOIN US FOR A LIVE WEBINAR  
APRIL 16, 2025 4:00PM – 5:00PM ET

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Caregivers are essential members of a patient's care team, yet they have often been overlooked and unsupported. Join the National Alliance for Caregiving and Rush University in a webinar that will review changes to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Medicare Physician Fee Schedule (PFS) that expand and improve services for family caregivers and Medicare beneficiaries. We will highlight two case studies of health systems implementing caregiver training services (CTS) and the

lessons they learned. Attendees will also learn about the National Alliance for Caregiving's efforts and recommendations for integrating family caregivers into cancer care through CTS codes. [Register](#)

# CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL

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Did you know that family caregivers provide over \$600 billion in unpaid care annually, saving the healthcare system billions by preventing costly institutional care. As the ...more

**Family caregivers are the backbone of our nation's long-term care system.**



**Protect Medicaid from drastic cuts and harmful policy changes.**

Connect with NAC on social media to get the latest updates on our advocacy efforts, resources, and events.

Join our online community to support and uplift caregivers nationwide.



## Let's Connect



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