

Community-Based Care Providers Statement on Priority Access to Personal Protective Equipment

Community-based home care, hospice, palliative care, and disability service providers are having increased difficulty accessing personal protective equipment (PPE). Priority access to PPE will enable community-based care providers to continue caring for elderly and disabled Americans safely in the home and keep the caregivers on the frontline safe from exposure to COVID-19 and minimize the risk of community spread.

We respectfully request FEMA grant priority status to the community-based home care, hospice, palliative care, and disability service providers in accessing PPE for the delivery of healthcare services and long-term services and supports during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Our request is supported by the recent announcement from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) declaring that the delivery of healthcare services are considered essential "to help State and local officials as they work to protect their communities, while ensuring continuity of functions critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security".

