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HCAOA Partners on New Program to Encourage, Incentivize Vaccinations among Home Care Workers

August 31, 2021 (Washington, DC) – In an ongoing effort to encourage home care workers to get the COVID-19 vaccine, the Home Care Association of America (HCAOA) announced today it is partnering with the National Minority Health Association (NMHA) to provide cash incentives for workers who get the vaccine, and also for anyone in the community they successfully encourage to get vaccinated.

HCAOA is encouraging all home care agencies and their workers to participate in the **Flex for Checks** program (https://www.flexforchecks.com), which offers cash incentives for getting the shot and promoting it in the community. For example, home care agencies and workers receive \$25 for each shot a community member gets under their registration. Additionally, people receive \$50 for getting one shot, or \$100 for both doses. Registrants can earn unlimited money for promoting vaccines.

Developed as part of an \$11.1 million grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), HCAOA members can participate in this program to encourage and incentivize workers to get vaccinated. HCAOA member agencies can simply register to participate in Flex for Checks, share the information with their workforce, who then will get paid to get vaccinated against COVID-19.

"Since the vaccine was rolled out, HCAOA has developed and provided educational resources to home care agencies and workers about the safety and benefit of the COVID-19 vaccine," said Vicki Hoak, HCAOA Executive Director. "But this partnership with the NMHA is a game changer. By simply registering with the Flex for Checks program and sharing information and resources with workers, agencies and their workers can earn unlimited money – which goes a long way at a time where agencies are struggling to recruit caregivers.

"HCAOA lives by the mantra *Members Matter Most*, and this new partnership is a perfect example of how the association is working to provide home care agencies with another tool to recruit caregivers and keep their workers and clients safe at home," she added.

"Working in a collaborative manner with the HCAOA is important in bringing the program to non-medical workers and patients, so we can achieve the goal of getting as many people in underserved areas vaccinated as possible," said <u>Burgess Harrison</u> NMHA Executive Director.

About HCAOA

Founded in 2002, the <u>Home Care Association of America</u> (HCAOA) is the industry's leading trade association – currently representing nearly 4,000 companies that employ more than 500,000 caregivers across the United States. HCAOA serves as the home care industry's unified voice.

About NMHA. The <u>National Minority Health Association</u>, founded in 1988, achieved its initial mission of ensuring the establishment of Offices of Minority Health in all 50 states. Today the NMHA is adding to its mission and deploying new programs that utilize patient-centered, value-based care, and new ways of enhancing care to patients where they are, lowering costs, and improving outcomes for minority and underserved communities.

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