



March 24, 2022

The Honorable Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave., SE
Washington, DC 20528-0525

Dear Secretary Mayorkas:

I am writing on behalf of the Home Care Association of America (HCAOA) and its more than 4,000 member organizations regarding the humanitarian crisis in Ukraine. HCAOA would like to partner with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security in assisting those fleeing the war in Europe.

The home care industry can offer immediate employment to those displaced by this terrible crisis. Immigrants already make up a large and valued segment of our caregiving workforce. In fact, nearly one third of our industry's home care workers were born outside the United States.

Home care, often referred to as personal care being provided in someone's private home, helps older adults and individuals with disabilities maintain healthy, active lifestyles for as long as possible. Our industry is currently experiencing both explosive growth and an unprecedented workforce shortage. For example, the number of home care workers increased by 151% between 2008 and 2018. Yet Paul Osterman of MIT's Sloan School of Management projects a national shortage of 151,000 paid direct care workers to develop by 2030. **Immediately employing Ukrainian refugees as caregivers would provide them the income they need to sustain themselves while displaced, all while helping our industry and the thousands of families we serve.**

I would appreciate an opportunity to meet with you or your staff about this matter and look forward to assisting the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and Ukrainian people in any way that we can. Please don't hesitate to contact Eric Reinerman at (305) 542-5749 or via email at eric@hcaoa.org if you have questions.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vicki Hoak". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Vicki Hoak, CEO