Month + Day, 2021

State Health Official:

The Home Care Association of America represents home care agencies that bring care into the homes of thousands of older citizens and people with disabilities every day. Throughout the pandemic, home care workers have provided one-to-one care in individuals’ homes to keep them safe and prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

Home care is critically important as we continue to face the continued pandemic in 2021.

Home care is the answer to keeping our most vulnerable citizens safe from this disease, and our frontline workers are essential as we battle the virus.

As you continue to develop our state’s plan for the distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine, we urge you to include home care workers as among the priority groups of persons for early vaccination. If we are to contain the spread of the virus, home care workers are at high risk for COVID-19. They work in the homes of seniors and are in close proximity with vulnerable persons daily who are at increased risk for severe illness. Our caregivers play an essential role in the fight against the coronavirus and should therefore be among the first to receive the vaccine.

Home care agencies monitor the conditions of our frontline workers every day and are in an ideal position to monitor the well-being of our clients, who are at home, yet are vulnerable to the virus. We continue to provide our frontline workers with PPE, testing when appropriate and offer ongoing training on infectious disease control.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We stand ready to assist the advisory group in any way possible. If there is any additional information you may need, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,