



Colorado Governor Proclamation for April 2-8 as Direct Care Worker Week

Direct Care Worker Appreciation Week!

The DCWC Leadership team, made up of all stakeholders, worked for several months to create Colorado's first Direct Care Worker Appreciation Week to honor the incredible work of Colorado's 60,000 direct care workers. Governor Jared Polis has **officially declared April 2 to April 8, 2023 as Direct Care Worker Appreciation Week!**

On **April 4, 2023 at 9 a.m.** Representative Mary Young and Senator Joann Ginal will pay tribute to the state's direct care workforce in the House and Senate chambers at the State Capitol Building, recognizing their contributions to Colorado's health care system and celebrating their valuable work.

Attend in person - meet April 4, 2023 at 8:30 a.m. in House or Senate Chambers - [State Capitol](#) 200 E. Colfax Ave. Denver 80203

Attend virtually - www.coloradochannel.net

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Gov. Polis recognizes direct care workers, legislative tribute set for April 4

(DENVER, CO.) - In recognition of Colorado's 60,000 direct care workers, Gov. Jared Polis declared April

2 to April 8, 2023 as direct care worker appreciation week. Direct care workers provide care and

assistance with activities of daily living to more than 70,000 people who receive long-term



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services and

supports in their homes, host homes, group homes, assisted living residences, and nursing homes.

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chambers to the state's direct care workforce, recognizing their contributions to Colorado's health care

system and celebrating their valuable work.

These dedicated direct care workers have been responsible for providing physical, emotional, and

behavioral health services during the extraordinarily challenging COVID-19 pandemic and Colorado's

most vulnerable citizens have greatly benefited over the years from the personal commitments that

have been made by these exceptional direct care workers.

In 2022, the State of Colorado made the single largest investment in direct care workers by establishing

a base wage of \$15 an hour for those taking care of individuals on Medicaid. However, despite this

increase, 37 percent of direct care workers in Colorado are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty

Level (\$55,000 annually for a family of four). According to PHI, most of Colorado's direct care workers

are women and 44 percent identify as non-white.

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