



## **CAREGIVER WAGE AND BENEFIT**

### **JANUARY 2021 SUPPLEMENT**

#### **TEN/ELEVEN PAYSACLE**

Starting wage for Caregivers is \$10.50

Upon completion of training Caregivers will receive a \$1.00 per hour in premium for a total wage of \$11.50.

Caregivers who completed 8 hours of training in 2020 will need to complete 4 hours of training by August 1, 2021 to maintain the training premium; otherwise, their wage will be reduced to the starting wage (\$10.50).

Home at Heart Care does not allow people on the Ten/Eleven Scale to work overtime. Caregivers who wish to work overtime must sign Amendment No. 3.

#### **OVERTIME AUTHORIZATION EXEMPTION (Amendment No. 3)**

Caregivers who wish to work up to fifty (50) hours per week may sign a written Employment Agreement Amendment No. 3, which includes a pay rate of \$10.10 per hour and the option of working up to ten (10) hours of overtime at time and a half.

Upon completion of training Caregivers will receive a \$0.15 per hour in premium for a total wage of \$10.25.

Caregivers who completed 8 hours of training in 2020 will need to complete 4 hours of training by August 1, 2021 to maintain the training premium; otherwise, their wage will be reduced to the starting wage (\$10.10).

Note: As always, Caregivers cannot exceed a client's Care Plan hours or hours authorized by Home at Heart Care's Director of Services.

#### **PAID TRAINING**

Caregivers that complete Home at Heart Care sponsored training are paid at their current rate of pay for training time. Training should be completed within 60 days of hire and annually thereafter before August 1<sup>st</sup> every year. Training schedules and options are posted on our website: [www.homeatheartcare.com](http://www.homeatheartcare.com)

Caregivers within their first year of employment must complete 8 hours of training. Eligible for 8 hours paid.

Caregivers after their first year must complete 4 hours of training annually. Eligible for 4 hours paid.

Home at Heart also offers Person Centered training, online training and home studies. All training is designed to meet individual Caregiver needs.

#### **ELECTRONIC TIME CARD INCENTIVE**

Until further notice, Home at Heart will continue to pay a bonus of \$1.00/hour for all time processed successfully through eTimeCard. Incentive applies only to hours for the current week.

The electronic time card incentive only applies to Caregivers who are under the ten/eleven payscale.

## **EXPANDED SERVICES PAY**

Caregivers who have completed the annual training requirement are eligible to receive Expanded Services Pay when working for Waivered Respite Care or Individual Community Living Support Recipients. Rate of pay for these expanded services is \$13.00 an hour.

Expanded Services Pay only applies to Caregivers who are under the ten/eleven payscale.

## **MN DHS ENHANCED RATE PAY**

The Minnesota Department of Human Services (MN DHS) Disability Services Division offers new benefits for PCA workers who provide services to a person eligible for 12+ PCA hours per day. In order to qualify, eligible PCA's must complete specific training. Home at Heart has a few clients who meet these qualifications.

Further information regarding the stipend and enhanced rate is available online at

<https://mn.gov/dhs/partners-and-providers/news-initiatives-reports-workgroups/long-term-services-and-supports/pca-enhanced-rate/>

## **TRAVEL TIME**

Home at Heart pays travel time (at each employee's applicable regular hourly rate) between clients for caregivers who are authorized for serving more than 1 client in a day. Employee manuals explain this policy in more detail. A Caregiver Travel Documentation form is available on the Home at Heart Care, Inc. website under Resources/Employee Resources tab. Travel time must be included with the weekly time sheet for the week in which the travel occurred.

## **TRANSPORTATION OF CLIENTS**

Minnesota Department of Human Services ("DHS") and Home at Heart prohibit the transportation of clients. (Transportation is a separate DHS service, not to be combined with Home at Heart services.) However, Caregivers may accompany clients (if someone else is transporting them) if the client needs assistance with ADLs during transport or at the point of destination.

- Caregivers are not to drive the client's vehicle while performing services.
- Home at Heart does not provide company vehicles for transportation of clients or employee personal use.
- Home at Heart does not reimburse employees for mileage for transporting clients.

## **HOLIDAY PAY**

Home at Heart pays time and a half for Caregivers who perform approved PCA hours on Christmas Day and the Fourth of July. Home at Heart at its discretion will pay additional holidays at time and a half or authorize discretionary holiday bonuses.

## **HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT**

Caregivers who average more than thirty (30) hours per week over a standard look back period are eligible to enroll in Home at Heart Care's employee subsidized health plan. In 2021 Home at Heart pays 75% of the employee's premium. Caregivers will receive enrollment paperwork upon meeting the qualifications.

Caregivers who choose not to enroll in our employee subsidized health plan must also indicate that they do not want coverage. Forms for eligible Caregivers are mailed to Caregivers or may be picked up at our office. Contact Human Resources for additional information.

### **HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT (HSA)**

Caregivers who enroll in the Home at Heart health insurance benefit may participate in the health savings account which allows the caregiver to place pre-tax dollars each pay period into a savings account for use with out of pocket medical expenses.

### **CHRISTMAS BONUS**

Historically Home at Heart Care has distributed at its discretion Christmas Bonuses. Caregivers who have more seniority and average a maximum of hours are weighted to receive more than low seniority or those who only work minimal hours. Although it is our desire to pay an annual Christmas Bonus, Home at Heart Care makes no guarantees that there will be an annual Christmas Bonus.

### **401K RETIREMENT PLAN**

Home at Heart Care offers a 401k retirement savings plan. Employees must be at least 21, have worked a full calendar year and worked a minimum of 1000 hours in that year to qualify for participation. Home at Heart offers a 4% match to the employee's 5% contribution. Contact Human Resources for additional information.

### **REFER A FRIEND BONUS \$100**

Home at Heart Care pays a \$100 bonus (subject to all federal and state withholding requirements as the employee's salary) to each employee who refers a friend to work for us who has not worked for us prior to the referral. (Management and marketing staff are not eligible). Online applications and paper job applications will have a block that says; REFERRED BY: Employees must follow these rules:

Rule 1: Name of current employee must be on the original application in the referred block.

Rule 2: New employee must work a minimum of 3 months and 100 hours before the \$100 bonus is paid to current employee

Rule 3: Only the person whose name is on the original application can receive the bonus and they must be employed at the time new employee reaches the threshold at Rule 2 to earn the bonus.

### **VENDOR AGREEMENTS**

Home at Heart Care has Vendor Agreements with local businesses in our area. Employees can work through these vendors to purchase a vehicle, an appliance, and furniture or make car repairs. Approved Vendors are listed in our Caregiver Manual. In addition we are open to working with other vendors to develop additional agreements. These Vendors extend credit to our employees, in exchange Home at Heart makes voluntary payroll deductions and send weekly payments to the vendor at no cost to the employee or the vendor. To qualify for a vendor agreement, an employee must have worked at Home at Heart for three months and complete their training requirement. Deductions cannot exceed 1/3 of the Caregivers take home pay.

## **WELLNESS BENEFIT**

Home at Heart Care also maintains a library of Biblical resources with a focus on Caregiving available for free as well as pamphlets that address a wide range of physical, emotional and mental health needs.

In addition to our clients' supervision visits, when requested, our Wellness Team Volunteers make house calls to both clients and caregivers for encouragement and support.

## **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Home at Heart Care has an agreement with the Clear Waters Life Center in Clearbrook to provide free individual and group counseling services to our employees and clients. These counseling services are conducted by both lay and professional counselors as needed. Counseling services include Grief, Blended Family, Depression, Anxiety, Anger Management, Children and Youth and Behavioral Coaching. These services are confidential and can be accessed by calling the Clear Waters Life Center directly, 218.776.2789, [www.clearwaterslife.org](http://www.clearwaterslife.org).

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Home at Heart provides a weekly payroll. Direct Deposit forms are completed at orientation. If any changes need to be made, forms are available on our website under Resources/Employee Resources, or you may contact the office. Pay advices are accessible online via email and are password protected.

AFLAC; Home at Heart gets Group rate reductions for AFLAC Benefits. Payroll deducts payments as directed by the employee. Plans available include; Cancer, Accident, Short Term Disability, Hospitalization, Intensive Care, Specified Health Protection, Dental, Vision, Life Insurance, and Sickness.

Home at Heart maintains a Family Medical Leave Act Policy. Details are posted on line and in the Caregiver Policy Manual.

Home at Heart provides Caregivers as needed personal protective equipment (including gloves, masks, and Gait Belts).

Home at Heart Care offers Electronic TimeCards. Caregivers who are interested in using electronic timecards should contact the office.

Home at Heart hosts open houses periodically with plenty of fun, food and gifts.

Home at Heart Care offers walk in or online applications at; <http://www.homeatheartcare.com/apply-now.html> Background study fees are waived for prospective Caregivers and can be done at Home at Heart Care's office. Background studies can also be done at other Regional locations in Minnesota.

## **PRICELESS BENEFITS**

Everyone associated with Home at Heart Care receives something not measured in Money or Benefits received. At Home at Heart Care we believe every person we meet is special and valuable in the eyes of God. Staff at Home at Heart Care meet daily to pray for individual Prayer Requests and for the favor of God on our clients and staff.