

## **SSI Increase Talking Points: Governor's Office**

- As an Assisted Living provider in \_\_\_\_\_ County, serving \_\_\_\_\_ residents, I'm calling to urge the Governor to support the SSI increase in this year's Budget.
- This would provide an essential increase in the State portion of the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) Rate for adult care facilities (ACFs) of \$20 per resident per day over a phased in five-year period. This increase is needed to enable ACFs to continue to care for SSI recipients.
- An increase in the state portion of the SSI for residents of adult care facilities will ensure continued access to necessary care.
- The current rate of \$40.60 per day is insufficient to provide care, housing, meals, case management, medication assistance, housekeeping, and activities, all of which contribute to giving our residents the best quality of life possible.
- Studies conducted with 2013 financial data from NYSCAL, LeadingAge New York, and ESAAL indicate the average cost per day to care for an SSI resident is \$69.84 per day. It should be noted these figures were calculated prior to the State's increase in the minimum wage.
- While costs, mandates, and health insurance premiums for employees continue to increase dramatically, ACFs have not received a state portion increase in the SSI rate for a decade.
- Given this shortfall, I respectfully request the Governor include funding for a much-needed phase-in of \$20 per day over five years in his 2020-21 State Budget proposal.