

March 31, 2021

<Provider Name> <Provider Address 1> <Provider Address 2> <City> <State> zipcode5-zipcode4

Dear Home Help Agency Provider:

RE: COVID-19 Premium Pay Extended Through September 30, 2021

This letter serves as notice that the COVID-19 Premium Pay has been extended by the passage of Public Act 2 of 2021. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) will pay agency providers an additional \$2.52 per hour for Home Help services provided from March 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021.

Public Act 2 of 2021 increased the agency caregiver's Premium Pay by \$.25 per hour. Agency providers must use the funds to provide a \$2.25 per hour increase in agency caregiver wages. This amount must be paid in addition to the wage the agency caregiver was earning prior to April 1, 2020 and recorded separately from base pay. The \$2.25 per hour Premium Pay must be applied entirely to agency caregiver wages. Agency providers will receive \$0.27 per hour to cover the costs associated with implementing this wage increase.

All Premium Payments are subject to audit and potential recoupment. Agency providers should retain documentation that supports the distribution to agency caregivers and that payments were made in accordance with the requirements in this letter and letters L 20-28, L 20-42, L 20-67 and L 21-02.

Agency caregivers should continue to follow the guidance issued in March 2020 titled "Actions for Caregivers of Older Adults During COVID-19" along with the document "Actions for Caregivers for Older Adults Addendum Frequently Asked Questions". These documents describe recommendations for in-home direct care workers and methods to assure a face-to-face visit is needed. Links to the documents can be found at www.michigan.gov/homehelp under "URGENT".

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If you have questions, contact Provider Support at 1-800-979-4662 or via email at providersupport@michigan.gov.

An electronic version of this document is available at <u>www.michigan.gov/medicaidproviders</u> >> Policy, Letters & Forms.

Sincerely,

K.M ____

Kate Massey, Director Medical Services Administration