



A&E HOMES

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Hello members of the Frontline Worker Pay Work Group:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony on behalf of my employees and other Direct Support Professionals in the Northland.

During the past 18 months, my employees came to work each day among difficult conditions. At one time, we had to carry letters in our vehicles stating we were essential workers in case we were stopped by the police during a mandated stay at home order. Another time, myself and the team were wearing full PPE ensuring 8 clients, who were all Covid Positive, maintained a happy and healthy daily routine for four weeks.

While A & E Homes, Inc. is a small company, the 35 people employed became a large family of frontline workers. During a time when it was easier to stay home and collect unemployment, I didn't lose one employee. We shared our fears when one of our residents was hospitalized for 3 weeks over Christmas and we also celebrated when he was cleared to come home. We all risked our own health to continue to be a light in the lives of the residents we serve.

As I am just learning about your group, I am humbly requesting that our level of health care workers be considered to receive a portion of the \$250,000,000 Federal Relief Hero Pay.

Respectfully,

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