

Script for Outreach Call/Email

Please feel free to use this as a guide for your conversation, and add agency-specific details and make connections to the legislator's community's needs.

Hi Rep/Senator _____,

My name is _____, and I am calling from [your agency/community] to discuss the dire workforce crisis that is creating a crisis of access to care in the health and human service industry. **Could I take 10 minutes of your time?**

If no - Is there a time I could call you back to speak more about this urgent issue?

If yes - Great thank you so much (tell story about your organization/your work/your family or utilize below summary)

Rhode Island children with developmental disabilities and behavioral health conditions, adults with disabilities and behavioral health and substance abuse conditions, and elders rely upon a skilled and available workforce to live safe and healthy lives in our community. The health and human service industry employs this workforce and provides those critical supports.

Without a skilled and available workforce, children and adults with behavioral health conditions needing treatment and supports **won't have it**--infants and toddlers with developmental delays **won't receive** Early Intervention services--- individuals suffering with addictions **won't have** treatment options, and elders wanting to remain living in their homes **will not be able to do so**.

The pandemic has made the already-existing problems in the delivery system worse. This workforce crisis must be addressed aggressively and urgently or it may further undermine the safety of our community and the viability of the industry that supports thousands of Rhode Islanders.

Do you support investing minimally \$100 million of American Rescue Plan funds toward the health and human workforce crisis?

If no - I'm sorry to hear that. Could you share a bit more about your reservation? Do you have any questions I can answer?

If yes - Excellent! Thank you so much for your support!

No matter how they respond - Thank you so much for your time and consideration. Have a great day!

SUPER IMPORTANT: Indicate if the legislator you spoke to supports our effort on the tracking sheet below. Just click **this link** and it will take you to a form with the names of all representatives and senators. **Please fill this form out for all legislators you make contact with.**