

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **IHA Receives Statewide MLTC Workforce Investment Organization (WIO) Designation**

*IHA has been awarded a statewide MLTC Workforce Investment Organization (WIO) designation from the New York State Department of Health (NYS DOH).*

ALBANY, New York — The MRT Waiver Amendment makes available up to \$245 million through March 2020 for initiatives to retrain, recruit and retain healthcare workers in the long-term care sector. This initiative is being referred to as the Workforce Investment Program.

Through the Workforce Investment Program, DOH will require the development of WIO/Plan partnerships designed to:

- Demonstrate alignment with the overall goals of the state's MRT Waiver Amendment, expecting to support, at a minimum, MLTC Level 1 VBP arrangements and encouraging MLTC Level 2 VBP arrangements;
- Invest in initiatives to attract, recruit and retain long term care workers in the areas they serve;
- Develop plans to address reductions in health disparities by focusing on the placement of long-term care workers in medically underserved communities;
- Consistently analyze the changing training and employment needs of the area that the program serves;
- Provide for broad participation and input from stakeholders; and
- Support the expansion of home care and respite care, enabling those in need of long-term care to remain in their homes and communities and reduce New York's Medicaid costs associated with long-term care.

**Eligible Plans is limited to those that have at least 5,000 members and are solvent.** Those plans include:

AgeWell New York  
Centers Plan for Health Living  
Elderplan  
ElderServe  
Fidelis Care at Home  
Guildnet  
Integra

Senior Health Partners, Inc.  
Senior Whole Health  
Village Care  
VNA Homecare Options  
VNS Choice  
WellCare

IHA plans to utilize its unique, exclusive partnership with HealthStream, to be able to reach an unlimited number of diverse workers, across multiple employers. HealthStream is the leading provider of online health care education in the nation with approximately 3.85 million healthcare professionals using their programs and services. The breadth of their course offerings covers health care workers in acute care, post-acute care, ambulatory care, physician practice and other care settings.

HealthStream offers a centralized training platform, a library with thousands of courses, and a leading-edge data and analytics platform to measure results. The HealthStream Learning Center (HLC) is a centralized learning platform, which is used to register learners, distribute on-line courseware, track classroom training activities, run completion reports, and more. There are no limits on the geographical reach of training offerings.

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### *About Iroquois*

The Iroquois Healthcare Association (IHA) is a regional healthcare trade organization representing 54 hospitals and health systems, spanning over 28,000 square miles, across 32 counties of Upstate New York. IHA is the leading resource for facilities and professionals bringing quality health care to the region. IHA represents the unique needs of rural, small community safety-net providers to large, academic medical centers in Upstate New York's urban areas through advocacy, education and information, cost-savings initiatives and innovative business solutions. For more information, please visit [www.iroquois.org](http://www.iroquois.org).