



Empowering people, strengthening human services

## **FY'26 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES**

### **13th Annual Caring Force State House Rally**

**Increase funding for the Chapter 257 Rate Reserve (Line-Item 1599-6903) from \$207 million to \$307 million.** This rate reserve provides critical funding to support mandated rate adjustments for essential human services staff. These adjustments help ensure wages remain competitive enough to attract and retain qualified professionals.

***Pass An act relative to a livable wage for human services workers (S.130 | H.223).*** This bill would eliminate the pay disparity that exists between the salaries of human services workers employed by community-based human service providers and state employees holding similar job titles who perform similar work.

***Pass An act relative to a loan repayment program for human services workers (S.119 | H.283).*** This legislation would provide student loan repayment to human services workers who provide essential services to hundreds of thousands of people across the Commonwealth.

**[www.TheCaringForce.org](http://www.TheCaringForce.org)**

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