

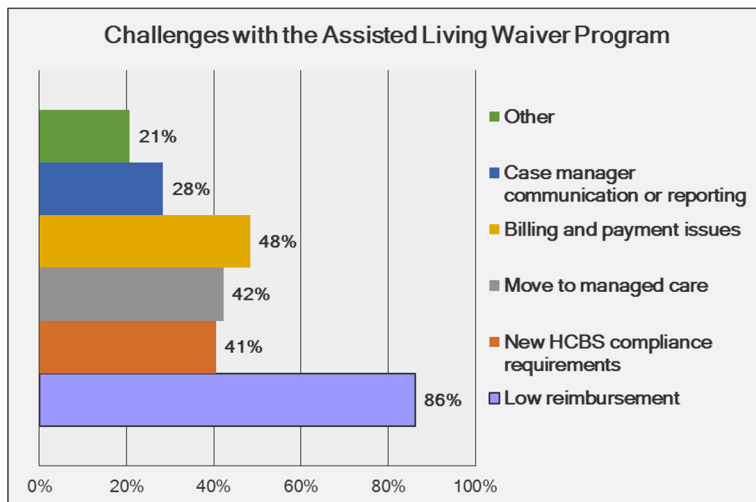


## OHIO ASSISTED LIVING ASSOCIATION

### *Assisted Living Medicaid Waiver Provider Survey – Preliminary Results*

In March 2017, the Ohio Assisted Living Association asked all Ohio Residential Care Facilities (RCFs, publicly known as Assisted Living) to complete an anonymous survey concerning their participation in the Assisted Living Medicaid Waiver (ALW) program. Of the 680 residential care facilities licensed by the Ohio Dept. of Health, 239 (35%) completed the survey the first week. Of these initial respondents, two-thirds (157) were certified as an ALW provider through the Ohio Dept. of Aging.

- ***Of those RCFs that were not certified for the waiver program, 92% gave low reimbursement as their reason for not participating.*** 71% of these non-participating RCFs, said that they would reconsider if reimbursement was increased to a “fair rate”.
- ***41% of the waiver providers said they were willing to admit new residents on the waiver.*** The rest responded that they only accepted the waiver for their current residents that ran out of money. Two-thirds of those only serving their own residents said that they would be willing to remove their “private pay first” requirement if waiver reimbursement was increased to a “fair level”.
- More than three-fourths (78%) of all of the waiver providers responded that they ***would be willing to accept more ALW residents if reimbursement was increased*** to a “fair level”.
- Many of the participating RCFs cited challenges with the current program, ***primarily due to the low reimbursement (86%)***.



These initial results support that the largest issue with the current Assisted Living Waiver program is the flat, well below market rate, reimbursement level. ***Limited access has been propelled and perpetuated by the low, never increasing reimbursement.*** Secondary issues include challenges in relation to the program’s move to managed care, as well as other newly added compliance requirements.

*Complete survey results will be available from OALA by March 31, 2017*