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**BAYADA Home Health Care advocates: Home health care is cost-effective,
preferred**

More than 160 employees attend fifth annual BAYADA Day at capitol

Harrisburg, PA—April 5, 2012—BAYADA Home Health Care employees from across Pennsylvania united on the steps of the capitol's main rotunda in Harrisburg on Tuesday, April 3, and met with legislators to advocate on behalf of their home health care clients. Their message was clear: home health care is cost-effective and preferred by those in need of care, and investing in home health care saves money for the Commonwealth. The fifth annual BAYADA Day celebration included 168 scheduled visits with legislators and a press event. Speakers included Secretary of Aging Brian Duke, Senators Patricia Vance and Christine Tartaglione, Representative Kerry Benninghoff, the parent of a home health care client, and BAYADA Founder and President Mark Baiada.

"More than 17,700 Pennsylvanians are able to remain safe at home because of the vital, in-home care coordinated by 9,200 BAYADA Nurses, Therapists, Home Health Aides, and office staff," said Baiada. "To provide quality care for our clients and support their quality of life, we must make sure that in-home care remains an accessible, viable, and growing part of the long-term care system in Pennsylvania."

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Pennsylvania's long-term care policies reflect a bias toward more costly institutional care. According to the Department of Aging Policy and Budget Office, the average cost to care for someone in a Medicaid nursing home is \$69,700, while the cost to care for someone at home through the Aging Waiver program is \$14,600. Therefore, the Commonwealth can provide services to approximately four individuals at home for the same cost as one individual receiving institutional care.

"Home health care significantly improves the quality of life of the clients, is a large employer, and saves taxpayers money," said Anita Weinberg, DSW, director of government affairs for BAYADA in Pennsylvania. "We look forward to continuing our work with the legislature and the executive branch to make home health care more accessible to people throughout Pennsylvania who need it."

Founded in 1975 by J. Mark Baiada, BAYADA Home Health Care provides nursing, rehabilitative, therapeutic, hospice, and assistive care services to children, adults, and seniors in the comfort of their homes. Headquartered in suburban Philadelphia, BAYADA employs more than 17,000 nurses, home health aides, therapists, medical social workers, and other home health care professionals who serve their communities in 24 states and India from more than 240 offices. For more information, visit www.bayada.com.

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