Issue Brief: Long Term Care Services and Supports Funding

30 April 2018

WHY FOCUS ON FUNDING?

The Ministry of Health recognizes that Bermuda, like many countries, is experiencing a growth in its elderly population and has high rates of chronic non communicable diseases. With an ageing population, high rates of chronic diseases, and a residential care system at capacity, the Ministry understands that there is a need to improve the robustness of the long term care system. To accomplish this, there was a need to first gain a better understanding of the current state of the system.

This report sought to document government funding of the long-term care system, explore mechanisms that the government might employ to stimulate private sector investment in residential care, investigate seniors' needs for home conversions and their ability to pay for such conversions, and to make recommendations on meth-



ods of improving the efficiency of the long-term care system.

The report explores the residential longterm care system and expands the scope to include

long-term services and supports (LTSS) which includes residential care but also takes in other services that support seniors and persons with disabilities either in their own home or in care facilities.

FAST FACTS

- Long Term Care Services and Supports (LTCSS) funding is estimated at \$104 million (for 2017)
- Subsidy claims for BHB LTCSS: \$29.8 million
- HIP and FutureCare LTCSS Claims: \$9.8 million
- Grants & funding for LTCSS providers: \$25.5 million; 50% (approx.) is to providers serving persons with physical and intellectual disabilities or disabling mental health conditions.
- Financial Assistance LTCSS benefits: \$34.5million
- War Veteran LTCSS benefits: \$4.5 million
- 58% of all seniors are on HIP, FutureCare or GEHI
- 9% (1,007) of all Bermuda's seniors receive Financial Assistance benefits
- 80% of seniors on Financial Assistance receive assistance with housing
- 90% of rest home residents receive funding from Financial Assistance
- Charity and government care homes' expenses range from \$1.4 to 5.5 million per year (depending on capacity and level of care)
- 74% to 84% of charity and government operated care homes' expenses are payroll costs
- An estimated 75% of seniors own their own home but only 20% have made plans if they lose ability care for themselves.

NEXT STEPS

- Review and develop the recommendations in the report for:
 - * LTCSS funding (e.g. inclusion in the Standard Hospital Benefit)
 - * Home modifications incentives to enable ageing in place (e.g. home equity release, public funding)
 - * Financing incentives for residential care development (e.g. Premier/Minister of Finance committed to up to \$10 million in Government guarantees to support care home development).
- Develop a 3-5 year strategic plan for long-term care that addresses data needs, funding, governance, capacity and quality.







