Mr. Peter Hans, President North Carolina Community College System 200 West Jones Street Raleigh, NC 27603

Dear Mr. Hans:

Congratulations on your new position as president of the North Carolina Community College System. The community college system has been vital to the growth and success of North Carolina, and will be even more important in the years ahead. You are the right leader at the right time!

We write to you representing citizens and organizations committed to developing and sustaining a strong direct care workforce in health and human services. We believe that the community college system can, and should, play a vital role in addressing some critical issues for the future of health and human services in our state. Health and human services providers are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit and retain employees, especially direct care employees, as North Carolina reaches nearly full employment. Indeed, the stability of North Carolina's entire workforce is imperiled as more and more of our state's aging workers are trying to care for and/or manage the care of their older and disabled relatives.

We are engaging a variety of community leaders to elevate this issue in the broader public discourse, and believe it should be a prominent agenda item for every one of the various summits and public forums that discuss the future of North Carolina's public policy, healthcare, economy, education, and workforce. We hope that this issue will be among your top priorities as you take the helm of North Carolina's community college system, and we stand ready to collaborate with you and your staff on these issues. Knowing you share our concerns, we would respectfully request that you consider appointing a senior staff member with the System to join our currently "informal" group.

Please find enclosed a page of background information, along with a few Power Point slides that highlight some of the issues faced by providers.

Again, congratulations on your appointment. We look forward to your leadership, and to hearing how we might be engaged with you and the North Carolina Community College System to address this critical issue. At the present time, please feel free to correspond with the group through Ted Goins at tgoins@LSCarolinas.net; 704-798-1069; P.O. Box 947, Salisbury, NC 28145.

Sincerely,

Iom Afin Mr. Tom Akins

President and CEO

LeadingAge NC

May Better Ms. Mary Bethel

President

North Carolina Coalition on Aging

Amarda Boler / KKM

Convener

NC Eldercare Workforce Alliance

Mr. Ted. W. Goins, Jr. President and CEO

Lutheran Services Carolinas

Robert Konned Dr. Robert Konrad

UNC - Chapel Hill

William Lamb/kkn Mr. William Lamb

Executive Director

Friends of Residents in Long Term Care

Kentale Dr. Kezia Scales Director of Policy Research

PHI

Mr. Adam Sholar President and CEO

NCHCFA

Enclosures