

Addressing the senior care provider shortage

KEY CHALLENGES, THEIR IMPACTS & STRATEGIC SOLUTIONS
FOR LEADERS ACROSS THE AGING CARE CONTINUUM

Key challenges

- **Aging Population:** The growing senior population in the U.S. is outpacing the availability of healthcare providers, creating a shortage of over 100K critical workers by 2028.
- **Care Provider Burnout:** More than 60% of nurses report burnout; this burnout exacerbates the shortage.
- **Geographic Disparities:** Rural and low-income areas face the greatest shortages due in part to fewer resources.

Impacts

- **Reduced Access to Care:** Seniors may experience longer wait times, have limited access to specialists, and long-term care.
- **Declining Quality of Care:** Burnout leads to medical errors, decreased patient safety, and poor care quality.
- **Rising Costs:** Shortages drive up the cost of senior care, forcing facilities to close and increasing out-of-pocket costs. Only 14% of seniors can afford in-home care in addition to their existing housing costs, Axios reported.

Three Strategic Solutions

- **Support Family Care Providers:** One in five American adults provides unpaid care, according to AARP. Providing educational resources and support to family care providers can reduce stress and decrease burden on healthcare resources.
- **Enhance Education & Training:** Expand direct care worker and family caregiver training with technology like VR (Virtual Reality) to accelerate learning, boost empathy, and foster emotional resilience.
- **Attract & Retain Care Providers:** Prioritize positive working conditions, invest in ongoing training, and professional development to reduce turnover and burnout.

IMMERSIVE IMPACT

71%

Increase in student confidence to provide care for Alzheimer's patients

4X

Higher rate of learning retention from traditional training methods

98%

Increase in understanding of older adults with sensory loss