Celebrate Caring Careers

Celebrate Caring Careers Month this November

Celebrate the people who make a difference every day in the lives of older adults, people with disabilities and people with behavioral health care needs across Minnesota

Why is it important to Celebrate Caring Careers in November?

- People who work in Caring Careers support Minnesotans so they can **live safely, with dignity and independence.**
- Caring Careers include professionals working in **long-term care, aging services, disability services and behavioral health services.**
- There are **more job vacancies in these vital roles than in any other occupations in Minnesota**, according to the latest Job Vacancy Survey. For example:
  - There are more than 4,100 vacancies for Personal Care Aides and Home Health Aides.
  - There are nearly 3,900 vacancies for Nursing Assistants.
- People can start many Caring Careers positions with a high school diploma or equivalent and short-term training.
  - There are many career paths available in Caring Careers.
  - In some cases, employers pay for additional training and certification so people can grow their skills and increase their wages.
- Without enough people working in Caring Careers, the ability of many Minnesotans to participate in the labor force suffers because **people who are caring full time for loved ones aren't able to fill other important roles.**
- Without necessary supports, people with disabilities are **not able to fully participate in the labor force.**
- **Demand continues to grow** due to aging demographics, increased longevity, growing behavioral health care needs and other factors – making Caring Careers foundational to Minnesota's future.

This is essential, life-changing work – let's celebrate it!

→ *Flip this sheet over for celebration ideas!*

How you can Celebrate Caring Careers in November:

1. **If you work in a Caring Career share your story!** First of all, thank you! Please talk with your employer about sharing your message about how important your work is, why you find it rewarding and let others know why you think Caring Careers should be celebrated! Your employer may have a social media account to share your story with others, or they may choose to share your story in a different way. One option: ask your employer to share a short video you record of yourself saying why Caring Careers should be celebrated.
2. **Thank a Caring Career professional in your life.** Maybe that person is a friend or family worker who works in this essential field. Or maybe that person is someone who cares for you or a loved one.
3. **Consider a Caring Career path for yourself.** There are a range of roles, and not all involve direct care – there are also housekeeping, dietary and maintenance positions, to name a few!
4. **Encourage someone you know to explore Caring Career options.** Maybe you know a high school student trying to figure out what comes next – or a friend considering a career change to one where they can make a real difference.
5. **Write a letter to the editor and sent it to your local newspaper or news site** expressing your gratitude for the difference a Caring Career professional made in you or your family's life.
6. **Follow, engage with and repost CareerForceMN Celebrate Caring Careers posts on Facebook, LinkedIn, X and Instagram** – snap the QR code to go to our social media toolkit with links to our social accounts, social media graphics for you to use and more. Please use #CaringCareerMN.

Find Caring Career resources at CareerForce.MN.gov/Caring Career

- Career exploration information sheets
- Links to current job openings across Minnesota
- Career pathways information
- Transferable skills information
- More!

CareerForce™

Minnesota's Career Resource