

## **WHO WE ARE**

The Council for Quality Respiratory Care (CQRC) is a coalition of the nation's leading home oxygen therapy provider and manufacturing companies. Together, we provide in-home patient services and respiratory equipment to nearly **3 million patients** who rely on home oxygen therapy to maintain their independence and enhance their quality of life, including a majority of Medicare's home respiratory beneficiaries. Our member companies also employ nearly **30,000 healthcare professionals** nationwide.

## **OUR MISSION**

Our members are committed to providing high quality in-home patient services and respiratory equipment to individuals who rely on home oxygen to maintain independence and enhance their quality of life.

## **CQRC IN VIRGINIA**

**123,667** Patients

**660** Employees

Treating patients in urban & rural areas, including:

- Alexandria
- Charlottesville
- Danville
- Lynchburg
- Richmond
- Roanoke
- Williamsburg

## **THE ISSUE**

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services uses a competitive bidding program to set the rates for Medicare reimbursement for home respiratory services. This system divides service areas into different payment rates: competitive bidding, rural and non-competitive bidding areas.

Despite adjustments to the program, CMS is still applying competitive bidding rates determined under an older methodology to non-competitively bid areas (CBAs), which we fear will harm patients due to the increased costs of providing home oxygen supplies and services in those markets.

**Competitive Bidding Area (CBA)** 

**Non-Competitive Bidding Area (CBA) Rural** 

**Non-Competitive Bidding Area (CBA) Non-Rural** 

CMS must ensure rates are properly set to protect access to home oxygen services and stabilize the market, especially for beneficiaries living in rural and underserved markets.