

# SEIU 503 Care Providers Preserve Services for Their Clients and Jobs for Themselves

**During the 2009 legislative session, the vital services our care providers deliver were under attack at every turn.** The Governor's recommended budget, the 30% cut list created by the Department of Human Services, and the Legislative Co-Chairs' budget all proposed devastating cuts that would have eliminated or dramatically reduced care for Oregon's most vulnerable citizens.



**Portia Moye**

## **Some of the worst proposed cuts would have:**

- ▶ eliminated homecare for clients who receive under 80 hours a month,
- ▶ limited Employment Related Day Care to families leaving the TANF program, eliminating affordable day care for 3600 families.
- ▶ restricted Medicaid-funded long term care to people under 200% of the federal poverty level, slashing provider rates by 10% or more,
- ▶ reduced the nursing home reimbursement rates by nearly 40%, and
- ▶ cut health insurance coverage for almost all homecare workers.

Yet, all session long, SEIU members flooded the Capitol, educating lawmakers about how these cuts would impact the people we care for.



**Phyllis Wills**

## **Care providers turned out in force for lobby days, budget hearings and town halls.**

**Child care local president Portia Moye** was featured in an Oregonian article about cuts to child care.

**Homecare activist Phyllis Wills** recorded a radio ad with her client talking about the cuts to homecare and nursing homes.



**Gary Lane**

**Adult foster home provider Gary Lane** testified in front of the Human Service Sub-Committee of the Joint Ways and Means Committee about proposed cuts to Adult Foster Care rates, and...

**...workers started petitions in communities across the state against the cuts to homecare hours, collecting thousands of signatures.** These were just a few of the ways SEIU members devoted time and energy to fight against budget cuts. Hundreds of SEIU care providers called and mailed postcards to their legislators. And, in the end, we were able to defeat almost all the proposed cuts and preserve vital services for Oregonians who desperately need them.