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Online Solution Launched by Manitoba Possible to Simplify Self-Managed Respite and Home Care:

Care Possible offers \$150 in care credits to new client sign-ups for respite and home care

(Winnipeg, MB – November 2, 2022) – Seniors and Manitobans with disabilities now have more control over their home care and respite services with Care Possible, a tool making self- and family-managed care easier than ever. Developed by Manitoba Possible (Society for Manitobans with Disabilities, SMD), this online community enables people to find the right match in a support worker at a time when there are unprecedented demands on the health care system.

Most Manitobans don't know that self or family-managed care is an option. Those who are aware assume it is cost prohibitive, not realizing that many can claim those expenses and be reimbursed by Manitoba Health. After an assessment by their Regional Health Authority, Manitobans receive a care plan detailing service eligibility and reimbursement budgets based on their health needs.

“We know that the relationship between clients and care providers is based on trust and respect,” says Lindsey Cooke, Director of Provincial Services at Manitoba Possible. “Clients want to feel agency over their care and be the decision maker of who they have in their home. Compassion, connection, and personalized care is vital for seniors and persons with disabilities. We're very proud to offer Care Possible as an alternative for Manitobans who want more control over their care plan.”

Manitoba Possible previously launched an online respite care solution. Based on user feedback envoy's limitations were identified and assessed, and while proof of concept was shown to be viable, the nonprofit pursued consultation focused on a new solution. Manitoba's Social Innovation Office Executive Director Teresa Dukes introduced Manitoba Possible to MyCare.

“We have spent seven years iterating a digital platform that specializes in home care, making the life of clients and home care workers simpler,” says Matt Owen, Chief Executive Office of MyCare. “This has created a hyper local solution for home care whilst also providing coverage to all New Zealand. We look forward to enabling better access to Manitobans for preference-based care and continuing to develop the services provided.”

Care Possible features interactive maps, filtering criteria (language, skills, availability), communication tools, scheduling, and a secure online payment system, making the administration of self-managed or family-managed care simple. Paperwork is simple with service and payment records available for download.

Care Possible aims to grow the caregiving capacity of communities by engaging people who might not have considered support work. For example, many home care or respite tasks do not require specialized skills or certification. Families and individuals seeking care often prefer

training and collaborating with workers in tailoring a care plan. Workers on the platform can set their own wages, take control of their schedule and nurture better relationships with clients. Safety and trust are top of mind for Care Possible, which is why the platform verifies identity and completes background checks for workers. Clients can rate and browse reviews of care providers, fostering community and trust.

As part of the launch, Care Possible is offering \$150 in care credits to the first 45 clients seeking care who sign up, complete their profile, and post a listing on the platform. The care credits go directly towards paying a support worker, providing a financial boost for care seekers and managers.

People seeking care and support workers can sign up today at CarePossible.ca or call 204-975-3080.

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