

CBS Evening News

09/08/25

6:40:20 p.m. [TEASE]

4 seconds

MAURICE DUBOIS: The immigration crackdown could worsen a shortage of home health aides.

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6:44:21 p.m.

2 minutes and 37 seconds

DUBOIS: Families caring for the elderly or disabled can face difficult choices, giving a loved one at home often requires home-health aides.

JOHN DICKERSON: But there is a shortage and as Elaine Quijano reports, changes in immigration policy can make it worse.

[ON-SCREEN HEADLINE: Deportation Fears; Home Health Aides in Limbo]

“MARCIA”: Four, five.

ELAINE QUIJANO: Eddie Weinstein’s stroke paralyzed the right side of his body and left his daughter Caroline scrambling.

CAROLINE WEINSTEIN: I knew the only way that he would survive and I would survive would be to have him live at home with care.

“MARCIA”: And I’m gonna give you some water.

QUIJANO: In 2020, Marcia became their home health aide.

WEINSTEIN: It was the first time since my dad’s stroke I could trust somebody to know he would be okay.

QUIJANO: Marcia is 53. She’s from Honduras and is afraid to show her face publicly, but she spoke to us about caring for others as a home health aide.

“MARCIA”: That’s what I love to do. I don’t see myself doing anything else — just taking care of the elderly.

QUIJANO: Her career began 25 years ago after Hurricane Mitch devastated Honduras and she was granted Temporary Protected Status, giving her legal authorization to work in the U.S. Now, the White House says conditions in Honduras have improved and today, Temporary Protected

Status for over 50,000 Hondurans, including Marcia, expired.

“MARCIA”: Sometimes I feel sad, sometimes I feel angry.

QUIJANO: But some might say, well, we can’t let it keep continuing forever.

“MARCIA”: Sigh. They should give us a path for a green card, because we are in the system already. 25 years paying taxes.

QUIJANO: Marcia got her training at sunny side Community Services in New York where 90 percent of home health aides are foreign-born. Judy Zangwill is the executive director.

JUDY ZANGWILL: We are concerned about it — about how it could exacerbate already a nationwide shortage and could result in a shortage for us as well.

QUIJANO: Today was Marcia’s last with the Weinstein family.

“MARCIA”: Sad for me and sad for them.

WEINSTEIN: When you find somebody you can trust that loves your loved one at such a vulnerable time, it’s terrifying to think about losing them.

QUIJANO: Marcia isn’t sure what she’s going to do next. She’s essentially alone here in the U.S. and it’s been decades since she was last in Honduras. The government says migrants who had TPS and who self-deport can get a free plane ticket, a thousand dollars, and a potential future chance to legally immigrate.

DUBOIS: Okay, Elaine, thank you.