

Aging and Disability Resource Center Summary Sheet

Summary of Issue:

Long Term Care (LTC) reform is a state initiative designed to manage LTC services and costs for eligible elders and adults with physical/developmental disabilities. The goals of this reform include choice, access, quality and cost effectiveness. Under this reform, publicly funded LTC would become an entitlement which would eliminate county wait lists. LTC reform is built on two major components; Aging and Disability Resource Centers (**ADRC**) and Care Management Organizations (**CMO**). ADRCs are one stop shops for aging and disability questions, to get accurate, unbiased information on all aspects of life related to aging or living with a disability. ADRCs will provide the following core services; information and assistance, long term care options counseling, short-term case management, financial and functional eligibility, emergency referrals, elderly and disability benefit counseling, outreach and marketing, and health promotion, prevention and early intervention.

ADRC approval by County Board is a prerequisite for county participation in the current CMO application and subsequent RFP award and CMO implementation, which will avoid future local levy increases (freeze at 2006 level*) for Health and Human Service Department LTC waiver programs, and eliminate wait lists (currently at 680 in Waukesha County).

Advantages of Comprehensive ADRC Services Implementation by Waukesha County:

- Full funding commitment by State (3.2M) for new/expanded ADRC functions and expense (In our region, CMO's will contract directly with the state for the Family Care/Partnership Program responsibilities and bear the financial risk – presently counties hold all risk).
- Opportunity for streamlined coordination with Adult Protective Services (APS remains a county responsibility along with associated referrals and expenses, as well as responsibility for WATTS Review, Ch. 51 Commitments, and Placements at MH Institute and Long Term DD Center Placements).
- Local governance and oversight of ADRC.
- Opportunity to integrate HHS and DoSS front door intake assessment, referral, and intervention services which presently must be provided and coordinated by both departments.
- “One stop shop” source of information, assistance and access to community resources for older people and people with disabilities, as well as their families.
- Helps people conserve their personal resources, health and personal/financial independence.
- Reduces demand for public funding for long term care by delaying or preventing the need for more expensive long term care (i.e., nursing home).
- Enables county participation in regional, multi-county public/private LTC reform initiative that is citizen/customer responsive and local levy friendly (future).
- If CMO Family Care/Partnership program initiation occurs (would occur two months after ADRC start up), would present significant favorable economic impact for Waukesha County due to increased private sector job creation.
- If Waukesha County ADRC and CMO Family Care/Partnership came on line in 2008, would result in approximate 25M reduction in 2009 Department/County budget.

*On 5/24/07, Joint Finance Committee approved (15-1) modified language (reportedly acceptable to the governor) which would set the first year county contribution at the 2006 level of Community Aids/Tax Levy dedicated to waiver programs, and then buy that down over 5 years to 22% of the 2006 community aids level. Although the state hasn't fully reconciled final figures for 2006, our best current estimate of the likely expected Waukesha county contribution is 4.5M, and the 22% buy down would bring that down to about 2.5M after five years).