



# Tuesday Morning Memo

**Thursday, April 15, 2010**

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## **ONE FINAL PUSH FOR AN AUDIT OF FAMILY CARE**

In January, the Joint Legislative Committee on Audit held a public hearing to discuss the possibility of a Medicaid audit. After hearing testimony from several people, committee members discussed the possibility of an audit that would focus on portions of Medicaid, including the Family Care program. There has been no committee action on a Family Care audit since January. Since the current legislative session ends on April 22, any legislative proposals that are still pending at that time will be “dead”. There will not be an opportunity for legislative action on Family Care until the next session begins in early 2011. **PLEASE MAKE ONE FINAL EFFORT TO CONTACT LEGISLATORS TO URGE THEM TO SUPPORT AN AUDIT OF FAMILY CARE.** The following links to documents will assist in doing that:

<http://www.arc-wisconsin.org/resources/familycareauditactionalert2.pdf>

<http://www.arc-wisconsin.org/resources/lettertoauditcochairs0414101.pdf>

## **POLITICAL NEWS**

Will Tommy Thompson be running for U.S. Senate? Will a beer baron enter that same race? What candidates are making an effort to learn about Wisconsin’s long-term care system? For answers to these and other political questions, go to The Arc-Wisconsin website at: <http://www.arc-wisconsin.org/>

## **COMINGS AND GOINGS**

The Arc Network - Welcome to Rebecca Cooper, the new Executive Director of The Arc of Dunn County

Legislature – Due to his victory in the election last week, Rep. Mark Gundrum (R-New Berlin) will be exchanging his seat in the State Assembly for a seat on the judicial bench for the Circuit Court of Waukesha County.

Rep. Kitty Rhoades (R-Hudson) has announced that she will not be seeking re-election. Rep. Rhoades is a past recipient of The Arc-Wisconsin’s Elected Official Award. During her service in the State Assembly, Rep. Rhoades developed an expertise in long-term care issues. She served as chair of the Assembly Committee on Aging and Long-Term Care, as well as a co-chair of the Joint Legislative Committee on Finance. She went out of her way to seek input from disability advocates when related legislation came before her. Even at night or on weekends, Rep. Rhoades found a way to track down advocates to seek their advice on proposals. In announcing her intention to not seek re-election, Rep. Rhoades mentioned that one of her accomplishments of which she is most proud is ensuring a greater emphasis on self-direction in Wisconsin’s long-term care programs. When she leaves the Assembly, Rep. Rhoades will leave behind large shoes that will be very difficult to fill.

## **TAKE THE GOOD WITH THE BAD**

If you have not already done so, remember to pay your taxes by midnight tonight. If you are upset about doing so, remember how important it is to vote in every election. This holds true even if you are not upset about paying taxes!