



Tuesday Morning Memo

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

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Family Care Marks 10th Anniversary on February 1st

Yesterday marked the 10th anniversary of implementation of the first Family Care pilot program in Fond du Lac County. Just about everyone is aware of the concerns that many people have about aspects of Family Care. However, it is sometimes important to look at the historical big picture. What has been learned in 10 years of experience can and should be used to help Family Care become more efficient in delivering appropriate and need Medicaid services to people in the most efficient manner. While we recognize that Family Care has a long way to go, we should acknowledge that a fair amount of progress has been made in the last decade.

A Family Care page has been added to The Arc-Wisconsin website. To see the page, go to:

<http://www.arc-wisconsin.org/arcwisconsin/family+care+waiver/default.asp>

Still Awaiting Committee Action on Medicaid/Family Care Audit

On Thursday, the Joint Legislative Committee on Audit adjourned and did not return to take action on the proposed Medicaid audit. Committee members were awaiting a document from the state auditor that would detail the scope of a Family Care focused audit. Once the committee takes action on a proposed audit(s), the committee recommendations will go before both houses of the Legislature for approval. There will be opportunity to contact your legislators regarding the committee's audit recommendations. The Arc-Wisconsin will continue to provide regular updates on this issue – including special e-mail alerts, if necessary.

Legislative Turmoil

In recent days, there have been reports of turmoil related to the personal relationship that a legislative leader has with a lobbyist. The only reason this is included in our memo is because the situation has caused several legislators to question the ability of a colleague to lead without becoming embroiled in conflicts-of-interest. Should the leader lose the confidence of colleagues, that changes the state's political environment – both when it comes to legislation and legislative campaigns. To see a news report that details the turmoil, go to:

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/statepolitics/83263332.html>

Upcoming Learning Opportunities

There are new additions to the list of upcoming learning opportunities. This list includes:

- SDS Network Meeting, March 11, Wisconsin Dells
- Rehabilitation for Wisconsin's Annual Rehabilitation and Transition Conference, March 24-26, Kohler

For more details on these and other opportunities, go to:

<http://www.arc-wisconsin.org/arcwisconsin/upcoming+events+trainings+and+presentations/default.asp>