



# Tuesday Morning Memo

**Tuesday, July 6, 2010**

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## **HEARING ON FAMILY CARE AUDIT CONFIRMED FOR JULY 14**

The co-chairs of the Joint Legislative Committee on Audit have scheduled a public hearing on July 14 at 11:00 am to discuss three items, including the proposed audit of the Family Care program. The hearing will take place in Room 411 South in the Capitol. The Arc-WI plans to be active at the hearing and submit testimony.

As readers of these memos know, The Arc-WI has played a very active role in supporting the proposed audit of Family Care. We continue to share the many concerns we hear about Family Care with legislators and staff of the Department of Health Services. To ensure that the audit takes place and that the scope of the audit effectively addresses the primary concerns many people are raising about Family Care, there are several things that can be done.

- 1) Contact the co-chairs of the Joint Legislative Committee on Audit to share the concerns and experiences with Family Care. It is critical that the committee co-chairs hear from a wide range of people including Family Care participants, guardians, parents, family, friends, providers, etc. The most effective way to contact the co-chairs is to send a letter by mail or fax – there is still time. The committee co-chairs are:

State Senator Kathleen Vinehout  
Wisconsin State Senate  
P.O. Box 7882  
Madison, WI 53707  
Fax: (608) 267-2871

Representative Peter Barca  
Wisconsin State Assembly  
P.O. Box 8952  
Madison, WI 53708  
Fax: (608) 282-3664

- 2) Contact your State Senator and State Assembly Representative to let them know about your concerns and experiences related to Family Care. This can be as simple as sending a copy of any letters sent to the committee co-chairs. To find out who your two state legislators are and how to contact them, go to: <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/w3asp/waml/waml.aspx>,
- 3) Watch or listen to the Joint Legislative Committee on Audit at 11:00 am on July 14. To do so, go to the Wisconsin Eye website at: <http://www.wiseye.org/>.

As Wisconsin disability advocates, we have the responsibility to do all that we can to ensure that Family Care meets its objectives of offering increased choices of services and providers, improving access to long-term care services, improving the quality of long-term care services and developing a sustainable program that will provide long-term care services in the most cost-effective manner.

## **IRIS REACHES MILESTONES**

July 1, 2010, marked the second anniversary of the implementation of the IRIS (Include, Respect, I Self-Direct) Medicaid Waiver in Wisconsin. As of July 1, 2010, there were 2,159 active participants in IRIS. For more information about this self-directed Medicaid waiver program, visit the IRIS website at: <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/bdds/iris/index.htm>