

Action Alert
Ask Governor Walker to
Veto the Caps on Community Long Term Care Services
June 17, 2011

Take Action Today!

This week, the state Assembly and Senate rushed to approve a budget that included a cap on all community long term-care services including Family Care and IRIS. Next the budget will go to Governor Walker who will have the opportunity to change the budget with his veto powers.

The case to lift the cap is compelling - it's the right thing for people and the right thing for the budget. Community long term care services like Family Care and IRIS have a long history of bipartisan support in Wisconsin because they *are more cost effective than institutions and better for people*.

Today's Journal Sentinel Editorial, ***A Cap Is Not A Fix***, calls on Governor Walker to veto the cap (<http://www.jsonline.com/news/opinion/124039264.html>)

It's important that the Governor hear from hundreds of people asking him to veto the cap, especially those families and consumers who rely on community supports or are desperately waiting for help. A veto may be a long shot but your calls and emails will make it clear that there is broad opposition to the cap and an urgent need for community services and supports.

As County Exec and as a state legislator, Governor Walker was a strong supporter of community services, so let's give him another chance to do he right thing: "If I did nothing else, I wanted to make sure Milwaukee County expanded Family Care to people under the age of 60 with developmental and physical disabilities, so that they in turn could see that waiting list eliminated like we did for older adults in this community." County Executive Scott Walker, August 2010

Contact Information

Governor Scott Walker: govgeneral@wisconsin.gov (608) 266-1212

Suggested Message for you to personalize with your own story

Governor Walker,

I urge you to veto the cap on Family Care and other community long term care services. It's the right thing for people and the right thing for the budget because community services are *more cost effective than institutions and better for people*. It's the right thing for me and my family (or clients) because _____

The new revenue estimates, federal funding from *Money Follows the Person*, and new data about the cost effectiveness of Family Care make the case that the necessary funding is available to move forward with serving those who wait. If you do not act, the pain and suffering will begin July 1, as young people transitioning from high school will no longer be eligible for community services, and our county will start new waiting lists for seniors for the first time in nearly 10 years. And our waiting list for adults with disabilities - already the longest in the state will continue to grow.

You have always been a leader in supporting these programs and advocating for community services as a more humane and cost effective alternative to institutional care. We are counting on your leadership now to veto the cap and support essential services for seniors and people with disabilities.

Signed with your name and home address