


MEMORANDUM

Date: March 30, 2011

To: Supervisor Peggy West, Chair, Committee on Health and Human Needs

From: Maria Ledger, Interim Executive Director, Department of Family Care 

Subject: Potential impact of 2011-2013 State Budget on the Milwaukee County Department of Family Care

Key Section of ASSEMBLY BILL 40 SECTION 9121, page 1290

...In a county where the family care benefit, as described in section 46.286 of the statutes, is available on June 20, 2011, or the effective date of this subsection, whichever is later, the department of health services may not enroll more persons in care management organizations, as defined in section 46.2805 (1) of the statutes, to receive the family care benefit **than the number of persons receiving the family care benefit in that county on June 20, 2011**, or the effective date of this subsection, whichever is later. This subsection does not apply after June 30, 2013.

Explanation

Milwaukee County was certified by the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) to provide Family Care to persons with physical and developmental disabilities age 18 to 59 effective November 2009. This was in addition to, at that time, the approximately 7,000 members age 60 or older already in Family Care and served by Milwaukee County. The Milwaukee County Department of Family Care (MCDFC) currently serves more than 7,600 members.

Community Care, Inc. (CCI) was also certified to provide Family Care in Milwaukee County to the same target groups in need of long-term care services. Community Care also participates in the PACE program and the Partnership program. I-Care, Inc. participates in the Partnership program as well.

In the proposed budget, enrollments for Family Care, Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE), Partnership and the State's Self Directed Supports Waiver "Include, Respect, I Self Direct" (IRIS) will be capped.

Descriptions of Programs Affected by Enrollment Caps

The Family Care program integrates home and community-based services, institutional care services (i.e., nursing homes), Medicaid personal care, home health, and other services that were previously funded separately. Family Care does not provide acute/primary health care services such as hospital stays, emergency room visits, medications, and doctor visits. Family Care interdisciplinary teams can and do assist Family Care members in communicating and coordinating with primary care services and providers.

The Partnership and PACE (Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly) programs integrate long-term care services and primary and acute health care services, and prescription medications.

In Partnership, members use physicians who are in the Managed Care Organization's (MCO) provider network that may include the member's current physician. In PACE, members use physicians that are employed by the PACE MCO or under contract. PACE requires the use of a day health center while Partnership does not. PACE enrollees must agree to receive primary care from the PACE physician while Partnership enrollees may choose from a panel of independent physicians who have agreed to serve Partnership members. Participation in either program is voluntary.

In IRIS, participants use public funds within their individually assigned monthly budget allocation and other resources to craft support and service plans that meet their self identified long-term care outcomes. IRIS participants are not enrolled in MCOs and are not provided with interdisciplinary care management teams.

Implications of Enrollment Caps

In Milwaukee County, the waitlist for persons for persons age 18-59 with disabilities is still approximately 2000 people. The anticipated date for the elimination of this waitlist was November of 2012.

Enrollment caps will mean the existing waitlist for people with disabilities will likely be in place past November 2012. In addition, older adults will have to be waitlisted for Family Care for the first time in nearly a decade.

There has been no definitive direction from the State as to how the proposed enrollment caps are to be managed. If managed from a statewide perspective, "slots" created by disenrollments in Milwaukee County may be given, for example, to people who want to enroll in Managed Care in LaCrosse County.

If the State manages the caps on a regional or County basis, "slots" created by disenrollments in the Milwaukee County Department of Family Care may be given, for example, to people who wish to enroll in IRIS in Milwaukee County.

The Secretary and Deputy Secretary of DHS stated they would like to triple enrollments into IRIS. It is unclear how this would occur given the enrollment caps. The Secretary and Deputy Secretary have been given information regarding the availability of Self Directed Supports (SDS) within Family Care. SDS within Family Care is an option for any member who wishes to self-direct all or a portion of their care plan.

The MCDFC has long offered a Self-Directed Supports (SDS) option through our Supportive Home Care Employment Services (SHCES). The MCDFC currently serves over 2,500 members with this highly successful model.

The SHCES model was created to allow members the freedom to hire preferred workers through the co-employment model of SDS. Using the SHCES, members can choose and direct their caregivers with the added safety net of training and quality monitoring. Just as importantly, in the event the preferred caregiver is sick or requests a day off, the SHCES can provide immediate support to members and caregivers through a pool of other caregivers available to provide assistance. This model meets all of the state's long-term care reform goals of Access, Choice, Cost Effectiveness and Quality.

Enrollments

According to DHS, the enrollments for all managed care programs in Milwaukee County, as of 1/2/2011*, are as follows:

	<u>Developmental Disabilities</u>	<u>Frail Elderly</u>	<u>Physical Disabilities</u>	<u>Unknown</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Milwaukee County Department of Family Care	1002	6280	214	16	7512
Community Care Inc (CCI) Family Care	624	274	291	2	1191
Community Care Inc (CCI) PACE	15	664	106	2	787
Community Care Inc (CCI) Partnership	30	95	34	2	161
iCARE Partnership	37	32	66		135
IRIS					1093*

* DHS does not provide IRIS information by target group and IRIS enrollment numbers are effective 1/31/2011.

The Department of Family Care will continue to advocate on behalf of older adults and people with disabilities. We will apprise the Board of any further developments on the 2011-2013 budget as they are communicated to us.

If you have any questions, please call me at 287-7610.



Maria Ledger, Interim Executive Director
Milwaukee County Department of Family Care

cc: County Executive Marvin Pratt
E. Marie Broussard,
Chairman Lee Holloway
Supervisor Johnny Thomas
Antionette Thomas-Bailey
John Ruggini
Steven Cady
Jennifer Collins
Jodi Mapp
Jim Hodson