

August 10, 2011

Department of Family Care  
901 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Milwaukee WI 53233  
Attn: Valerie Woods

Dear Ms. Woods:

I am excited to apply for the Managed Care Organization Governing Board. I think I would be an asset to the board because I have a lot of personal experience being a caretaker and a client. I took care of my mother for several years and have seen many changes, both good and bad, in the system. I have a neuro-muscular degenerative disorder and am now fully physically disabled and am a current client of Family Care. I would be able to bring to the board my practical concerns, knowing firsthand what the implications truly would be when cutting various services. Times have been very tough and I understand having to balance a budget, but some services are extremely valuable. For example, I am very concerned that Transit Plus may be seeing service cuts. I wonder if people realize they are the only company that works nights and weekends. There have also been some bumps in the road with regard to the various in-home agencies and how they handle client-provider relations. I can report how my experience has been, where I see things breaking down and finally some ideas on how to make things better.

To explain a little more about me, I became a mother early. After my first child, I worked as a nurse's aide at St. Joseph Hospital. I liked the work, so I attended nursing school. During that time, I had two more babies, but still graduated in 1971. From there, I went to work at St. Mary's Hospital where I did nursing on a medical/surgical floor. I had a fourth child and when she began kindergarten, went to work at Milwaukee Lutheran Hospital. The work there was exciting in that I helped set up one of the first Gastro-Intestinal Labs in the area. At the time, it was groundbreaking science. After three years, my health steadily deteriorated. I had my fifth and final child, but was too weak to return to nursing again.

I was divorced after 18 years of marriage and I found myself raising five children basically on my own. Times were extremely tough financially, but I met my obligations and maintained a home for us. I am proud to say that all of my children graduated college or a university.

Therefore, I hope you see that I have a lot of life experience and believe it would lend itself in many ways to being an asset to your board.

Sincerely,

Mary J. McClintock