



KATHLEEN FALK
DANE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Dane County **Department of Human Services**

Director – Lynn Green
1202 Northport Drive, Madison, WI 53704-2092
PHONE: (608) 242-6200 FAX: (608) 242-6293 TDD: (608) 242-6356

June 30, 2010

Susan Crowley
Administrator
State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services
Division of Long Term Care
1 West Wilson Street
P.O. Box 7851
Madison, WI 53707-7851

Re: Family Care – Dane County

Dear Ms. Crowley:

This is written in response to your letter dated 5-27-10 outlining a timeline for the implementation of Family Care in Dane County. As you know, for many years Dane County has followed the implementation of Family Care throughout the State and has studied its possible introduction into Dane County. All our efforts have resulted in a consistent list of concerns that we have regularly shared with State staff.

These concerns include, but are not limited to:

- The high level of local contribution Dane County is being asked to contribute: We have been informed by the State that our initial contribution will be \$19.5 million. This is well in excess of any other county's contribution. This imposes a severe fiscal hardship on Dane County, who has generously contributed to enhancing services to consumers in the Family Care target groups.
- The capitation rate: In 2006, on behalf of the Dane-Rock planning consortium we contracted with an actuarial firm to complete a study of the service costs and anticipated capitation rate for Dane County only, Rock County only, and a Dane-Rock region. This firm determined that in Dane County the difference between our current cost of services per person per month and the anticipated Family Care capitation rate would be a loss of \$1700 per person per month. We feel this will result in a serious reduction in the quantity and quality of services to our consumers.

- ADRC funding: The State has documented that their financial support for the ADRC's is insufficient. In addition, we are aware that other counties have had to add local funding to ADRC's in order to provide the required services. Operating an ADRC will result in Dane County undertaking yet another underfunded mandate that needs to be supported by local revenue.
- Current status of Family Care Statewide: Dane County is aware that Family Care is struggling in parts of the State, both programmatically and financially. Until these issues are resolved, we are reluctant to consider implementing a questionable model in Dane County.

While we understand that the State hoped that Dane County would begin Family Care in 2011, as you know State law does not allow the program to begin until the County Board and County Executive approve this. Dane County policymakers are exploring Family Care options. We would like to meet with you to discuss our issues and explore mutually satisfactory solutions. We will contact you in the near future to discuss scheduling this.

Sincerely,

Lynn Green
Director

Cc: County Executive Kathleen Falk
County Board Chair Scott McDonell
Health and Human Needs Committee
DHS Secretary Karen Timberlake