



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

**CCD Long Term Services and Supports Task Force
2009 Annual Report**

2009 Issues

The Long Term Services and Supports Task Force worked closely with the Health Task Force on passage of a major health care reform bill. The LTSS Task Force focused its attention on ensuring that long term services and supports provisions were included in the health care reform legislation. Major proposals, which are currently incorporated into one or both of the health reform bills, include:

- The Community Living Assistance Services and Supports Act (CLASS Act) creates a new, actuarially sound, premium-based, voluntary, national long term services and supports insurance program to help adults with severe functional impairments remain independent, employed, and a part of their communities, as an alternative to having to become impoverished and enroll in Medicaid.
- The Community First Choice Option (CFC) will amend the Medicaid program to give states the option to implement a comprehensive community services to people who would otherwise be eligible for institutional services. States choosing the option would receive a 6 percent federal enhanced match to assist in implementation.

Other HCBS issues currently included in the health care reform bills:

- Extending the “Money Follows the Person Rebalancing Demonstration.
- Protection for recipients of home and community based services (HCBS) against spousal impoverishment.
- Incentives to states to offer HCBS as long term services alternatives to nursing homes, including FMAP increases to states to rebalance the institutional bias in spending for nursing homes instead toward more efficient HCBS services.

The Task Force also responded to an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPRM) issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that would redesign HCBS waivers on need rather than condition.

2010 Issues

In 2010, the Task Force will continue to work toward inclusion of the important long term services provisions in the final health care reform bill to be sent to the President for signature. The Task Force will devote substantial effort to implementation issues for the LTSS provisions that are enacted in the final bill. In addition, the Task Force will continue to work on the myriad of Medicaid provisions that impact on the provision of long term services and supports to eligible Medicaid beneficiaries.

2009 Co-Chairs:

Marty Ford, The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy

Suellen Galbraith, ANCOR

Lee Page, Paralyzed Veterans of America

Andrew Morris, United Spinal Association