

***Indiana Home Care Task Force***  
**5420 North College Avenue, Room 101**  
**Indianapolis, Indiana 46220**

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**Tools available, action lacking for those waiting on home and community based long term health care.**

Leaders of organizations representing consumers, senior citizens, and people with disabilities will be in Evansville, Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, for an 2:30 p.m. news conference to draw attention to the enormous potential for improvement in Indiana's long term health care system. Nancy Griffin, state director for AARP Indiana and John Cardwell, legislative director for the Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana will focus on the need for Indiana to move quickly to re-balance its system of long term health care. Wednesday's news conference will be held at the Southwest Indiana Regional Council on Aging (SWIRCA) – 16 W. Virginia St., Evansville.

Over 27,000 Hoosiers are currently on official waiting lists for home and community based services. An estimated 13,000 of those are waiting for services under the Indiana CHOICE program. Advocates stress that with the passage of Senate Enrolled Act 493, it is now time for the state to implement the new law and fully utilize its existing CHOICE and Medicaid waiver program.

SEA 493 was passed unanimously by the 2003 Indiana General Assembly and mandates the state to begin re-balancing its long term care system. Indiana's CHOICE program, which provides home and community based care to Hoosiers, has served citizens since 1987. Mr. Cardwell and Ms. Griffin will discuss the options now available to Hoosiers in need of long term care and the actions that Indiana must take to provide that care.