



THE GENERATIONS PROJECT

<http://www.generationsproject.org>

Indiana's Long Term Care Crisis Fact Sheet – January 2003

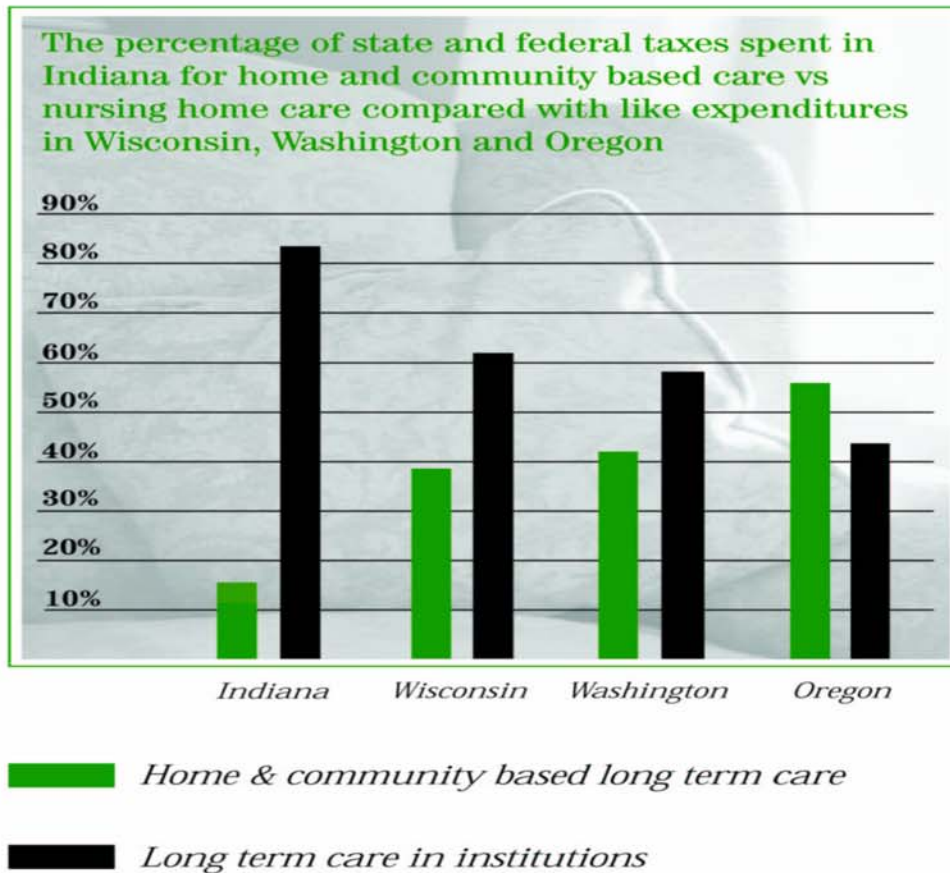
- Today, Indiana spends well over \$1.1 billion for care in institutions, but only \$194 million for home and community based care.
- Indiana's imbalanced public investment in long term care evolved in the 1960s and 1970s when nursing home care was seen as the only option. Today, consumers have many choices.
- States like Washington, Oregon and Wisconsin are re-balancing their spending between home health care, assisted living, adult foster care, nursing homes and other long term care alternatives so people can receive appropriate and cost effective care.
- Nearly 27,000 Hoosiers are on waiting lists for home care services, and many forego health care rather than fill the nearly 15,000 empty beds in Indiana nursing homes. In fact, an estimated 1,500 Hoosiers on official waiting lists for home care services die each year.
- Home and community based care is less expensive. The average annual cost for nursing home care through the Medicaid program is \$36,726 in Indiana, while the average annual cost for a person in the CHOICE program – one of the few programs helping older Hoosiers and Hoosiers with disabilities access home care – is \$7,234.
- It's no secret that the "Baby Boomer" generation is just beginning to swell the ranks of America's senior citizens. Between 2000 and 2020, the number of Hoosiers with long term care impairments is expected to rise from 325,285 to 400,360 – a 23 percent increase. If home and community based care options are not in place when the Baby Boomer generation needs them, taxpayers will spend hundreds of millions of dollars each year paying for excess nursing home care, the most expensive long term care option.
- Better care means healthier citizens and lower costs for everyone. Other states have long recognized what Indiana has failed to see: having an effective system of home and community based care will allow more Hoosiers to keep working and make Indiana a more profitable place for businesses, their employees and families.

For more information, call John Cardwell at (317) 423.7102 or Will Phillips at (317) 423.7108. Write The Generations Project, c/o AARP, Suite 1275, One North Capitol Avenue, Indianapolis, IN, 46204. You may also contact the Citizens Action Coalition Education Fund at 5420 N. College Ave., Room 100, Indianapolis, IN 46220.

The Generations Project is an alliance of AARP Indiana, ARC of Indiana, Alzheimer's Association, CICOA The Access Network, Citizens Action Coalition of Indiana, Council of Volunteers and Organizations for Hoosiers with Disabilities (COVOH), Indiana State Council of Senior Citizens, Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging, Mental Health Association of Indiana and United Senior Action of Indiana.

The Generations Project is underwritten in part by The Health Foundation of Greater Indianapolis and the Citizens Action Coalition Education Fund. Management support services are provided by CACEF and AARP Indiana.

When compared with other states that have better and more affordable long term care systems, Indiana spends fewer dollars on home care, assisted living, adult foster care, adult day care, home delivered meals, transportation, and other home and community based services. Instead, Indiana spends the majority of its tax dollars on nursing homes.



Sources: Indiana Office of Medicaid Policy and Planning, 2002; Wisconsin Bureau of Aging and Long Term Care Resources 2002; and the *Across the States 2000* report of the AARP Public Policy Institute. The data comparing Indiana with other states includes a larger database of total long term care services than that shown in the Annual Indiana Funding Chart.