



Chat Plus

Family Care Informational Meetings

Presented by Lakeland Care District & Winnebago County
Department of Human Services

June 2009

The Lakeland Care District is the name of the regional long term care district that will serve qualified elderly individuals and people with disabilities living in Fond du Lac, Manitowoc and Winnebago counties. The goal is to ensure that consumers throughout our region have access to high quality services and eliminating waiting lists so those who need services receive them. Lakeland Care District will support our members in their choice to remain independent at home and in their community for as long as possible. Please join us at the upcoming meetings to explain Family Care and how it will impact persons with physical or developmental disabilities, age 65 or older and have long term care needs, are a guardian, advocate or caregiver. It is important you understand what changes are being proposed and why.

Inside This Issue:

Family Care	1
Article: How to Instruct Loved Ones Health Care Needs and Wants	2
Volunteer Time & Charitable Donations	3
Summer Respite	3
Oshkosh Special Needs Parent Coalition	3
Childless Adults-Insurance Benefits	3
Human Race Update	4
Upcoming Events	4
Wish Lists	4
Wautoma Brat Fry	4
In Appreciation & Remember Cerebral Palsy	4
Mission Statement	5
Board of Directors/Officers	5
Con't Article from page 2	5

Topics will include:

- * Why is change needed?
- * What is Family Care?
- * What will change and when?
- * What is Lakeland Care District?
- * Who will be impacted?

Meeting Dates and Location:

August 27, 2009 1:00-3:00pm Winnebago Co. Human Services, 211 Commercial St. Neenah, Room 008 Lower level

November 19, 2009, 6:00-7:30pm Coughlin Center, 625 E. County Rd. Y Oshkosh, Meeting Room A&B

Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin is working in Partnership with:

- * Winnebago County Department of Human Services;
- * Lakeland Care District—**stakeholder committee**
- * Arc Winnebago County
- * Arc Fox Cities

For additional information please go to these websites:

<http://lakelandtcdistrict.org> or <http://www.co.winnebago.wi.us>

Attorney Jennifer W. Koepl

**HOW TO INSTRUCT LOVED ONES
REGARDING YOUR HEALTH CARE NEEDS AND WANTS**

In Wisconsin, no one, not even your next of kin, has the legal right to make health care decisions for you without your consent or a court order. Failure to designate an agent in a validly executed health care power of attorney will result in a guardian being appointed by the court to manage your health care decisions and living arrangements. To avoid this unnecessary time and expense for individuals over age 18 who have legal capacity to make decisions, individuals should instruct and designate an agent to make health care decisions on the individual's behalf. The first step in leaving health care instructions is to give significant time and personal consideration not only as to what your wishes are for future health care, but to whom you would trust the most important decisions affecting your life.

Designating a health care "agent"

In Wisconsin two different types of documents are used to designate a proxy or agent to make health care decisions for you in the event that you are unable to communicate your decisions for yourself. The first is a Declaration to Physicians, commonly referred to as a *Living Will*. A Living Will serves as a statement directed toward your physician that if you are in a "persistent vegetative state" or suffering from a "terminal condition," your doctor should carry out specific wishes regardless of the situation. This document allows you to check yes or no to life-sustaining treatments such as artificial respiration or artificial hydration/nutrition. A Living Will does not authorize or address treatments when a person is unable to communicate due to a condition which is not terminal or if the individual is not clearly in a persistent vegetative state. It is also important to remember that, in determining whether to use a Living Will or not, your physician, not your

family, will ultimately make the decision to withhold or withdraw the feeding tubes based upon your indication.

The second document is a Health Care Power of Attorney. This document allows you to specifically designate an individual to speak on your behalf with regards to your health care in the event you are unable to communicate. It not only covers the events of terminal illness or if you are in a persistent vegetative state, but any event which may leave you unable to communicate such as stroke, Alzheimer's or even if you are unconscious after an accident.

To Check "Yes" or "No"

Under a Health Care Power of Attorney, an agent's authority to make health care decisions is unlimited with a few exceptions. The standard Health Care Power of Attorney form recognized by all medical providers in Wisconsin allows you to check "yes" or "no" to grant your agent the following, specific powers:

- * to consent to withhold or withdraw a feeding tube
- * to consent to the admission of a patient to a nursing home or community based residential facility
- * to consent to treatments if the patient is pregnant

Individuals are often confused by these check the box provisions. Unlike the "yes" or "no" boxes of the Living Will, checking "yes" to any one of these three exceptions simply gives your designated agent the authority and flexibility to make those types of decisions on your behalf depending upon your needs and circumstances surrounding your condition. Therefore, as an example, if there is any circumstance, no matter how remote, under which you would consider the withdrawal of nutrition/hydration, you must check "yes" to allow your agent to carry out that wish.

Continued on page 5

Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin

Volunteer Time and Charitable Donation

Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin is filled with opportunities for people of all ages who want to become involved in an organization who prides itself on providing quality support and services to individuals and families with multiple service needs.

If you are age 70½ or older, only through 2009, you can benefit Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin because of the 2008 Rollover Act signed by President Bush. You can transfer any amount up to \$100,000 from your IRA to Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin without incurring any federal income tax. Please call us with any questions or comments at 1-800-261-1895 or 920-424-4071

Summer Respite!



Are you planning a summer vacation?
Are you wondering who will care for your loved one with special needs?

Respite House Oshkosh and Wautoma House have summer day and weeklong respite available for all ages.

There will be field trips, swimming, arts & crafts, picnics/cookouts, social activities and the opportunity to learn daily living skills.

Please call Patty Phillips at the Respite House-Oshkosh at 920-424-4073 or Dawn Olson in Wautoma at 920-787-4354.

Oshkosh Special Needs Parent Coalition

The Oshkosh Special Needs Parent Coalition met for the first time on May 2nd and then on June 4th. The purpose of the group is to give parents a place to connect with other parents, to increase communication and collaborate between the parents and Oshkosh Area School District. Many parents with special needs children have expressed this help with the awareness and access to many resources they did not know were available. The next meetings will be **Saturday, July 18th 1:00-3:00 pm and Thursday, August 6th, 6:00-7:00pm**. All meetings are held at the Hooper Building, 36 Broad Street, Oshkosh. Childcare is provided by Cerebral Palsy of Mideast Wisconsin. Contact Shannon Walter at swalter@new.rr.com or 920-233-1858. **Please RSVP** how many children you will be bringing to ensure there will be enough staff available. This Group is parent organized and directed, with support from Cerebral Palsy of Mideast.

Childless Adults Can Apply for Insurance Benefits

Low-income adults who don't have children can now apply to receive health insurance under an expanded state program.

Gov. Jim Doyle says applications are being accepted online at www.badgercareplus.org.

Benefits start on July 15 and will cover basic health care services, including primary care and generic drugs.

To qualify the person must be a Wisconsin resident, have no dependent children living with him or her, and earn less than \$1,805 per month, or \$2,428 for a married couple.

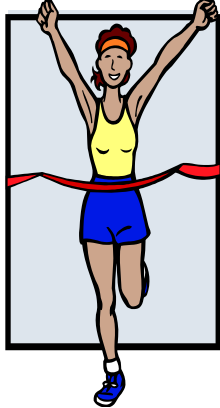
An applicant also must not currently have health insurance or have had access to insurance offered by an employer in the past 12 months.

The governor says the plan will provide an insurance option for up to 40,000 people.

Chat Plus

**Human Race—May 2, 2009
Congratulations!**

The Human Race took place in Oshkosh and Appleton. We want to thank Phil Janes and the Kirchner family who ran/walked in Oshkosh, Lynnae and Brittnae Sievert who walked in Appleton. The total pledges raised was \$1001. **Thank you** to everyone who pledged and walked!



Great Job!

Upcoming Events

July 13-*AxleTech Golf Outing* at the Oshkosh Country Club. Raffles, 18 holes of golf, and special contests. Money raised will be used for the Respite House in Oshkosh.

August 9-*Jansen's Bar & Restaurant*, afternoon of food, music & fun. 12:00pm-6:00pm

August 17-*Wautoma Golf Outing*. The 5th Annual Golf Outing at the Wautoma Country Club. Money raised will be used for the Wautoma House.

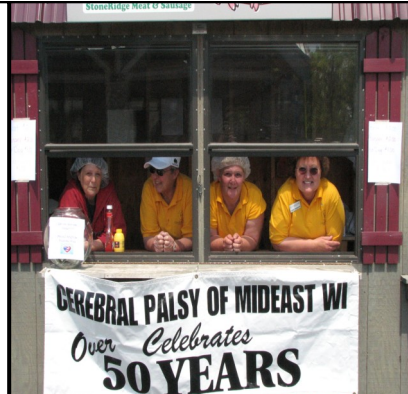
August 29-*Wautoma Brat Sale* at StoneRidge Meat & Country Market in Wautoma held between 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Money raised will be used for the Wautoma House.

September 25-26-*Volleyball Weekender* at "The Bar" Oshkosh. Call Cerebral Palsy for additional information.

October 5-*Ultimate Tailgate Party* (Packers vs. Vikings) at the Hilton Garden, Oshkosh. 5:30pm-end of game. Call Cerebral Palsy for additional information.

**Wautoma House
Brat Fry**

Wautoma House staff lead by Kathy Thompson, Program Supervisor as they cooked brats & hotdogs at StoneRidge Meat & Country Market, 975 E Main St., Wautoma, WI on May 29th.



Come and join us for the next Brat Fry between 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on August 29th. Same Location. All money raised is for the benefit of Wautoma House.

THANK YOU to all the Volunteers that helped at Irish Fest and Water Fest.

THANK YOU to all the Volunteers from Altrusa International Inc. Oshkosh for a successful rummage sale.

Wish Lists

Respite House-Oshkosh:

- * Living room furniture
- * Funds to replace flooring

Camp Sandy Wheels:

- * Specialized shower chair
- * Portable Hoyer Lift

Wautoma House:

- * Funds for park shelter

In Appreciation

We greatly appreciate:

- ◆ United Way Agencies
- ◆ Foundations
- ◆ Organizations
- ◆ Friends of Cerebral Palsy

All who help assist us in our many tasks, we thank you all.

Remember us when you are shopping at **Festival Foods**, mail or bring us your receipt by the 5th of the month and we will receive 1% of total purchase.

Pick 'n Save, ask Customer Service to list us as your preferred agency.

Morton's Pharmacy, ask Customer Service to list us as your preferred agency.

Any **aluminum cans** can be dropped off at the Oshkosh Respite House for recycling. (1325 Eastman Street, Oshkosh)

Contact Cerebral Palsy for any additional information or questions.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the corporation is to affect positively the quality of life for persons with severe disabilities, including, but not limited to cerebral palsy and the families with multiple service needs.

COUNTIES SERVED

Adams
Calumet
Fond du Lac
Green Lake
Marquette
Outagamie
Waupaca
Waushara
Winnebago

Board of Directors– 2009:

Ginger Beuk
Roger J. Birschbach
Vicky Bodin
Barbara Chesna
Andy Dumke
Valerie Gehrke
Phil Janes
Nicole N. Leiter
Beverly McCarthy
Jean Long Manteufel
Todd M. Miller
Todd A. Moely
Matthew Murphy
Jennifer Galow
Sandy Noe
E. Arthur Rehbein
Pat Seaman
Ritu Tannan
Cindy Tisinai
Pamela DeLap (Leadership Oshkosh)

Officers:

Vicky Bodin
President
Sandy Noe
1st Vice President
Matthew Murphy
2nd Vice President
Jennifer Galow
Treasurer
Ginger Beuk
Secretary
Beverly McCarthy
E. Arthur Rehbein
Delegates-at-large to the Executive Committee
Todd M. Miller
Immediate Past President
Judith K. Britton
Executive Director

How to Instruct Loved Ones: *continued from Page 2*

Determining Whether to Leave Specific Written Instructions.

Most Health Care Power of Attorney forms allow you to leave written instructions as to your thoughts and wishes for your health care. These instructions are intended to serve as guidance for your agents, family and physicians. Many people have felt compelled to provide written instructions, but should consider both pros and cons. One problem with leaving written instructions is that you also leave something to be interpreted by your agents, family and physicians. This creates potential for conflict between your trusted, designated agent and your physicians or other family members. In attempting to write instructions to communicate your wishes, you must be careful to provide some amount of flexibility to the authorized agent. Drafting this flexibility can be extremely difficult and many clients opt to forego written instructions rather than run the risk that what they are trying to communicate will be misinterpreted or followed under the wrong context.

Regardless of whether you chose to write instructions you should always have conversations with your designated agent as to your thoughts and wishes for health care under various conditions and circumstances.

Declaration to Physician and Health Care Power of Attorney forms can be obtained from most health care providers, attorneys or at www.dhfs.state.wi.us. It is recommended that you consult with either your health care or legal advisor, especially if you have questions or chose to provide written instructions specifying your thoughts and wishes for health care.

Next newsletter Jennifer will address:

* **Guardianships**

For additional information contact:

Jennifer W. Koepl
Koepl Law Offices, S.C.
477 S. Nicolet Road, Suite 9
P.O. Box 7137
Appleton WI 54912-7137
Telephone: 920-955-3641
Fax: 920-955-3642
Cell: 920-810-3509



Cerebral Palsy
of Mideast Wisconsin, Inc.
Over 50 Years of Service
Serving All Disabilities

NON-PROFIT
ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
OSHKOSH, WI
PERMIT NO. 280

36 Broad Street, Suite 120
Post Office Box 1241
Oshkosh, WI 54903-1241

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



DID YOU RECENTLY MOVE OR ARE YOU PLANNING A MOVE?

If your answer is **yes** and your newsletter is mailed directly to you, please call us at **920-424-4071** with your updated information. You will save Cerebral Palsy money by preventing the return of newsletters with incorrect addresses. **THANK YOU** for helping to update our mailing lists.

If you would like to receive this newsletter electronically, please forward your name, home address and e-mail address to Cerebral Palsy at: cp@cpmideastwis.com



United Way Partner Agency .