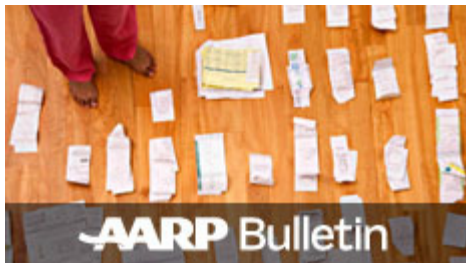




***Professional Caregiver Focal Point of Western Michigan***  
Resources and Caregiver Tools to use in your everyday work with caregivers

**September 2011 – This month’s edition provides information and resources for family and professional caregivers.**



The AARP Public Policy Institute has released a new paper, part of the *Valuing the Invaluable* series on the economic value of family caregiving, updating the national and state estimates of the economic value of family caregiving using the most current available data. The report also explains the contributions of family caregivers, details the costs and consequences of providing family care, and provides policy

recommendations to better support caregiving families. Access this report at:  
<http://www.aarp.org/relationships/caregiving/info-07-2011/valuing-the-invaluable.html>



**Not All Health Care Is Created Equal**

Medicare beneficiaries have choices when it comes to the quality of their providers. That’s why the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services just launched the Quality Care Finder designed to help beneficiaries and their caregivers find better health care

options. To find health care providers, facilities, health and drug plans, and equipment suppliers, and to make “apples-to-apples” comparisons of their quality, patients and their caregivers can go to [www.Medicare.gov/QualityCareFinder](http://www.Medicare.gov/QualityCareFinder)



Hospice of Michigan created The Caregiver Kit to give information to caregivers and help them consider some basic things including creating a supportive network of family and friends to help them. Order your free Caregiver Kit online at: [http://www.hom.org/?page\\_id=1275](http://www.hom.org/?page_id=1275)

**Please forward any interesting web address, resource, educational tool, book, event or conference information to Mike Faber ([mfaber@grcc.edu](mailto:mfaber@grcc.edu)) by the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month.**