



Caregiver Resource Network

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

March 2007 - This Month's Focus is Long-Term Care Planning.



This clearinghouse website is designed to increase public awareness about the risks and costs of long-term care and the potential need for services. It also provides objective information to help individuals plan for the future. This valuable website, provided by HHS' Administration on Aging, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, and the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, is available at the following link: <http://www.longtermcare.gov>.

West Michigan Long Term Care Connection

West Michigan Long Term Care Connection is part of a state and national effort to streamline access to long term care. The purpose is to provide timely and unbiased information about long term care options that allow older adults and persons with disabilities to make informed choices. This effort utilizes Options Counselors who provide comprehensive information and assistance, as well as long term support options and benefits counseling. They also conduct and coordinate functional eligibility determination; provide assistance with financial eligibility; create an individualized plan using a person centered approach; and provide follow-up advocacy. To access these services throughout Western Michigan call toll free at 1-866-642-4582. Additional background information on this statewide long term care effort is available in the form of a Power point presentation at the following web link:

http://www.aoa.gov/Choices/Summit/Main_Site/presentations/Renaissance%20West%20A/Dec%206%20Wednesday/1015-1145%20Role%20of%20IT-MIS%20Developing%20Effective%20ADRC/Role%20of%20IT%20-%20Michigan.ppt

Own Your Future

Long-Term Care Awareness Campaign

Also, check out Governor Jennifer M. Granholm's announcement on the Own Your Future Long-Term Care Awareness Campaign, a joint federal-state initiative to increase the public awareness of the importance of planning ahead for future long-term care needs, at the following link: <http://www.michigan.gov/som/0,1607,7-192-29942-157328--,00.html>.

Individuals can also download the free Own Your Future Long Term Care Planning Kit at: www.aoa.gov/ownyourfuture.

Please forward any interesting web address, resource, educational tool, book, event or conference information to Mike Faber (mfaber@grcc.edu) by the 1st of each month.