

Attachment B

Statement of Interest – Statewide Long -Term Care Reform
Format for Response to Request for Information/Proposals
Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services

Organization Name (s) (List all public and private entities represented by this statement of interest.):

Independent Living, Inc., Madison, Rita Giovannoni, Chief Executive Officer
Community Action Coalition, Rock and Walworth counties, Lisa Furseth, Executive Director
WHEDA, Bill Boerigter, Manager of Multi-Family Lending and Credit
HUD, Milwaukee Office, Sandra Devlin
WISCAP, Statewide Assoc. of 16 Comm. Action Agencies, Richard Schlimm, Exec. Director
USDA Rural Development, Sherry Engel, Multi Family Housing Coordinator

Contact Person and Contact Person's Organization (List name, address, telephone number, email and fax number.):

Rita Giovannoni, Independent Living, Inc., 815 Forward Drive, Madison, WI 53711-2443, (608) 274-7900, (608) 276-7691 fax, rgiovannoni@independliving.com

Brief Description of Organization (Legal entity status, purpose, scope of enterprise):

Independent Living, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization which provides a unique array of in-home services and housing options to assist older adults and people with disabilities to live with dignity and independence and maintain health and well being.

Interest in Planning and Implementation of Long-Term Care Reform in Wisconsin:

Independent Living, Inc. is interested in working collaboratively with the above-named agencies to research and design a program to provide needed managed care services to low-income and very low-income older and disabled adults living in subsidized housing owned and operated under HUD Section 202, HUD Section 811, Rural Development and WHEDA tax credit housing state-wide. Currently these individuals have no option but nursing home placement when their need for supportive services increases even minimally. Independent Living, Inc. has implemented this type of program at its Independent Living Retirement Community, a privately-owned, mixed-income development in Madison, WI. The program provides RCAC level of care and allows residents of the Community to remain in their own apartments by selecting a menu of services individually coordinated to support them. In 2002, Independent Living saw 10 residents at our HUD 202 funded McKee Park Apartments in Fitchburg, WI forced to move to nursing homes because they could not afford to privately pay for RCAC levels of service which would have allowed them to remain in their homes. As lead agency, Independent Living would research

ways in which managed care funds might be efficiently used in subsidized housing specifically to support such services for older adults already living in this housing statewide.

Geographic Area of Interest (List counties within the potential planning and service area of the entity or consortium.):

All counties in the State of Wisconsin

Proposed Scope and Nature of the Program (including target groups to be served, benefit package to be offered, and rationale for this proposal in terms of fiscal soundness and program effectiveness)

Wisconsin's lowest income older and disabled adults who live in subsidized housing have no option except nursing home placement when their needs for care and services increase. While many could manage quite well with the addition of supportive services, they are prematurely placed in a nursing home environment with more critically physically and mentally disabled individuals. This is not only devastating to the individual but costly to government programs and ultimately tax payers. Independent Living would research and design a program of RCAC level of services, using managed care funds, to serve low and very low-income adults currently living in subsidized housing, such as HUD 202 and 811 projects, Rural Development projects, and WHEDA tax credit projects. This program can be one of the most beneficial and critically needed reforms to long-term care statewide.

Other Comments or Information: