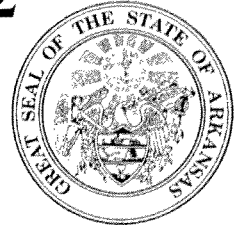




# EXHIBIT J-1&2

## Division of Aging and Adult Services



PO Box 1437, Slot S-530 · Little Rock AR 72203-1437  
501-682-2441 Fax: 501-682-8155

Arkansas is committed to giving individuals a choice in how and where they receive needed long term care services and supports. The Arkansas Department of Human Services (DHS) currently operates a number of Medicaid programs that offer consumers home and community based services as alternatives to institutional care. These programs give participants greater autonomy and increase community integration by providing choices in how and where consumers will receive their long term care services. And they are clearly working. Since implementing the first Medicaid waiver in 1992, the number of Medicaid recipients in nursing homes has decreased significantly, despite a growing population of seniors and people with disabilities.

Yet, Arkansas still has many opportunities for improving our system of long term care services and supports. Approximately 73% of the Arkansas Medicaid long term care budget is directed to institutional care, compared to the national average of 61%. Increasing the percentage of expenditures on HCBS is often referred to as “balancing” the long term care system. Arkansas is committed to improving the balance of its long term care system by expanding home and community based options, eliminating barriers to less restrictive settings and empowering consumers to direct their care in settings of their choice.

As a result of recent grant initiatives, two reports have been produced outlining strategic recommendations for Arkansas’s long term care system. The first, *Choices in Living for Arkansans with Long Term Care*, focuses largely on expanding the array of services available. The second, *Recommendations to Balance Arkansas’s Long Term Care System*, is more concentrated on needed systems reforms. Together, these reports provide a roadmap for Arkansas to achieve a more balanced system of care. Attached are the executive summaries of each report which include their specific recommendations. The final attachment is a crosswalk of the two reports to demonstrate areas of commonality. Copies of the full reports are available by contacting Krista May Hughes at [krista.hughes@arkansas.gov](mailto:krista.hughes@arkansas.gov) or by calling 501-682-2441.

Governor Beebe has now asked DHS to develop an aggressive action plan to implement many of the reports’ recommendations, and the Department is moving forward with assistance from an advisory group of consumers, advocates and providers.

We hope that you enjoy reading these reports and will continue to advocate for changes that improve the lives of seniors and people with disabilities.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Krista M. Hughes in black ink.

Krista M. Hughes, Director  
Division of Aging and Adult Services

Handwritten signature of Roy Jeffus in black ink.

Roy Jeffus, Director  
Division of Medical Services

Attachments