



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

September 9, 2015

Secretary Kitty Rhoades
1 West Wilson Street
P.O. Box 7850
Madison, WI 53707-7850

Honorable Secretary Rhoades,

We have become aware of the fact that the Department of Health Services has announced locations for initial public hearings regarding "FamilyCare/IRIS 2.0," to be held in Wausau and Green Bay.

As legislators representing the greater La Crosse area, we request you hold a public hearing in La Crosse to clarify changes made to the program, as well as allow public input from western Wisconsin residents.

Our offices have been contacted by a large number of constituents over the past few months who are concerned about the changes made to FamilyCare and IRIS programs. During budget-focused public hearings in La Crosse, an overwhelming number of attendees voiced concern regarding how FamilyCare and IRIS program changes would impact their families. Even after the budget passed, many constituents have asked how budget changes will affect their FamilyCare and IRIS services.

As La Crosse County implemented one of the original FamilyCare pilot programs and the La Crosse program has been running for longer than most of the state, it would be reasonable to hold a public hearing in La Crosse. A hearing in La Crosse would allow FamilyCare and IRIS participants in the Western Wisconsin region to be better informed about changes to their coverage, and to offer their input on the program as a whole.

We feel strongly that the people of La Crosse deserve the opportunity to provide their personal insights regarding FamilyCare/IRIS 2.0. We look forward to hearing from you regarding this request and working with you to arrange a public hearing in La Crosse in the coming weeks.

Sincerely,

Jill Billings
State Representative
95th Assembly District

Steve Doyle
State Representative
94th Assembly District

Jennifer Shilling
State Senator
32nd Senate District