



A FRESH VOICE

YourCARE Wisconsin

YourCARE is a health care plan that focuses on giving individuals and families control of *YourCARE*, while providing health care coverage to all residents. Just like the health care system, the *YourCARE* plan is made up of multiple proposals in order to provide families with the maximum control of their health care dollars, decisions and information. *YourCARE* is focused on five areas:

- *YourDOLLARS*
- *YourCHOICES*
- *YourWellness*
- *YourINFORMATION*
- *YourQUALITY*

YourDOLLARS:

YourCARE understands that the high cost of health care is a primary cause of anxiety for individuals and families across Wisconsin. To ease this anxiety, the ***YourCARE*** plan focuses on ***YourDOLLARS:***

- Makes **Health Insurance Costs Tax Deductible**. *YourCARE* lowers the cost of health insurance by making all copays, deductibles, and coinsurance for family's who pay their own premiums tax deductible.
- Allows for the creation of a **Small Business Health Care Purchasing Pool**. Small business will have the ability to utilize the purchasing power of larger companies by pooling together to provide more affordable health care coverage to their employees.
- Makes **Health Savings Accounts** tax deductible. Using these accounts, families and individuals across the state will have the direct control of their health care dollars and decisions, all while knowing they have insurance coverage for serious medical expenses.

YourCHOICES:

YourCARE believes that individuals and families, not government bureaucrats and politicians, should be in control of health care decisions. In order to allow you to continue to be the decision maker for your health care, ***YourCARE*** enhances ***YourCHOICES*** by:

- Requiring **Full Disclosure** of health care costs. ***YourCARE*** will build on this past success by disclosing more information to families on health care cost and quality. By passing legislation requiring health care providers to disclose the cost of commonly done procedures, families can make informed health care decisions and while easing the anxiety surrounding cost and quality. It is also important that the insurance industry join this effort by fully disclosing estimated deductibles and coinsurance for such procedures.

- Page 1 -

PO Box 38 • Sauk City, Wisconsin 53583 • 608/206-9797

Authorized and Paid for by Russell for Assembly, John Meyers, Treasurer

www.russellforassembly.com



- Enhancing **Wisconsin's Safety-Nets**. **YourCARE** understands that when times are tough, it is necessary to have a safety-net of health options. Through BadgerCare Plus, BadgerCare, SeniorCare and HIRSP, families across Wisconsin can access a wide range of health care safety-net programs. It is vital that the state legislature regularly reviews these programs to assess if they are meeting the needs of state residents. To determine eligibility, log-on to <https://access.wisconsin.gov/> or <http://www.hirsp.org/>
- Unlocking Wisconsin's entrepreneurial spirit through **CareGrants**. These grants will provide assistance to entrepreneurs to obtain private health care coverage for themselves and employees for up to twenty-four months as they begin a new business venture or expand an existing business.

YourWELLNESS:

YourCARE realizes that quality health care is not only about the services and procedures we receive at the doctor's office. It is about improving our overall quality of life by emphasizing prevention and wellness. **Workplace Wellness** is a proven means of providing employees the tools and resources necessary to live healthier lives, and through **YourCARE** we will provide incentives to Wisconsin businesses to start and expand their Wellness Programs.

- Establishing **Wellness Credit** program. Citizens should be rewarded for making sound health decisions, not punished for making poor ones. Adult state residents who enroll in a wellness insurance plan and actively follow a certified wellness program will receive a \$150 tax credit on their state income taxes. Businesses that choose to install workout facilities and implement workplace wellness programs should be able to reap tax benefits through increased depreciation and additional deductibility.
- Enhancing **Wellness Programs** in state safety nets. **YourCARE** improves on wellness initiatives and implements them on the low-income families who rely on Medical Assistance and BadgerCare programs. By continuing to provide smoking cessation programs, physical risk assessments and disease management program, **YourCARE** is lowering the cost of these programs by encouraging better, healthier lifestyles and ultimately reducing the costs of all premiums in the state
- Improve **Badger Care Plus** to improve dental care reimbursement so more dentists participate in the program.



YourINFORMATION:

YourCARE understands that technology can not only lower the cost of health care, but can improve patient safety and choice. To encourage the use of technology in health care, YourCARE is focused on:

- **Electronic Medical Records Tax Credit** - YourCARE is based on using technology to lower the cost of care and increasing overall patient safety. This session saw the state forward over \$84 million over the next ten years in investment incentives for health care providers to use electronic medical records.
- **WHEFA Bonding** for purchase of technology hardware and software – This tax deduction will provide another avenue for health care providers to access the latest health care technology, free from state tax.
- **EHealth** - While we move forward and expand the use of technology, we must make sure that our health care records are secure, portable and easily accessible by health care providers. Through the governor's EHealth initiative, we will be able to streamline state laws so your health care information is accessible in every office, hospital and emergency room 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

YourQUALITY:

YourCARE is based on the fact that as we work to lower the cost of health care, we should not cause new anxieties by lowering the quality of care that our families have come to expect. Wisconsin is home to some of the nation's best hospitals and doctors. YourCARE looks to build on this past success and keep Wisconsin a leader in health care innovation, collaboration and quality.

- **Quality Improvement Act (QIA)** – YourCARE improves the quality of health care by encouraging health care providers to work together to identify the standards, procedures and practices that result in the highest quality of care. Sadly, trial attorneys have set their sights on the health care system, forcing providers to not collaborate and share best practices information. YourCARE and the QIA puts quality care ahead of litigation.
- Continuing our commitment to **Medical Research** – Wisconsin has long been at the forefront of biotechnology research and innovation. YourCARE provides increased incentives for medical and biotechnology research to take place in Wisconsin.