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# State of Wisconsin Council on Physical Disabilities

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Date: November 15, 2004

To: Lorraine Barniskis  
Committee on Direct Care Workforce Issues

From: JorJan Borlin, Chairperson  
Council on Physical Disabilities

RE: **Workforce Issues Recommendations**

Members of the Council on Physical Disabilities met September 21, 2004 to discuss issues affecting individuals who provide care to people with physical disabilities. They identified the five priorities shown below, which were accepted by the full Council at its October 22 meeting.

1. People with physical disabilities should have the option to manage their own care.
2. Individuals who provide care should have a good environment (including appropriate assistive technology) in which to work.
3. There should be adequate funding to purchase care services and to pay care workers a living wage.
4. Specialized training is needed:
  - (a) to instruct care-givers about working for people with physical disabilities;
  - (b) to inform case managers about implementing self-directed care programs; and
  - (c) to educate consumers with physical disabilities about managing their own care.
5. Consumers wanting to manage their own care need:
  - (a) a statewide online registry or listing of trained care workers; and
  - (b) an online bulletin board on which to post requests for care-giving services.