



APRIL Position on Healthcare

We believe that the needs of the disability community must be integrated into implementation of healthcare legislation. Changes must be made to end the needless institutionalization of people, especially those living in rural communities, when the provision of appropriate services and supports can prevent such actions.

Comprehensive implementation of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) must include and reflect the inherent values of improved **Access, Choice, and a system that ensures Quality, and Cost Effectiveness.**

APRIL supports inclusion of the following values in implementation of the ACA:

Access

- All people should have access to quality healthcare.
- Healthcare services should be provided statewide in homes and local communities.
- Medical facilities, equipment, and services must be accessible to people with disabilities.
- Healthcare services must be provided regardless of age, disability, or type of services needed.
- Healthcare facilities critical to rural quality of life must have flexible reimbursement rates to continue to serve rural residents.
- Non-emergency transportation must be provided to ensure full and equal access to supports and services.

Choice

- Healthcare services should cover community-based attendant services, durable medical equipment, medical care, and medically based support services that will enable individuals to live as they choose.
- Healthcare should pay for preventive care.
- Individuals should not be denied healthcare due to pre-existing conditions.
- Healthcare services should be consumer directed

Quality

- Individuals should not be charged higher insurance premiums based on disability, age, or gender.
- States should establish a council that develops and oversees implementation of the ACA. This council should include individuals with disabilities, seniors, minorities, and health care professionals among its members.

Cost Effective

- Healthcare must be affordable with a limit on premiums and out of pocket expenses.
- Provision of medical services should not be limited or capped due to the cost of care.
- Healthcare implementation must increase long-term care options so all Americans can live independently in their homes and communities using cost effective long-term care services and supports.