



# The Arc Michigan

Paul White, President

1325 South Washington Avenue  
Lansing, Michigan 48910  
(517) 487-5426 or 1-800-292-7851  
Fax: (517) 487-0303  
Website: <http://www.arcmi.org>

Dohn Hoyle, Executive Director

September 29, 2009

Ms. Christine Boardman, President  
SEIU Local 73  
300 S Ashland Ave, Suite 400  
Chicago, IL 60607  
312-337-7768 (fax)

*DEAR HBSS PROVIDER  
Thought ya'd be interested in this. I'm looking forward to working with you!  
Christine Boardman*

Dear Ms. Boardman,

My name is Dohn Hoyle, and I am the executive director of The ARC Michigan. Our mission as an organization is to ensure that people with developmental disabilities are valued so that they and their families can participate fully in and contribute to their communities. I am writing today to let you know that SEIU has been a solid partner in our efforts to improve community services and promote consumer control.

When SEIU first called me nearly 10 years ago and told me that in-home caregivers were thinking about forming a union, I told them that I didn't think we shared the same values, and I hung up on them! I was skeptical because I had previous experiences with unions that would fight to protect state institutions. SEIU was persistent, formally embraced our values and we began to work together on many issues like fighting cuts to waiver services and creating the first-ever Office of Long-Term care in Michigan.

In Michigan, we at the Arc worked with other advocates to fight back cuts to medicaid for years, but we never seemed to build enough political capital to win new money for those who provided home and community based services. That changed when 40,000 in-home caregivers in our Home Help program voted to join SEIU. Then the advocates, consumers and SEIU members worked to mobilize hundreds of community, faith, senior, and disability advocacy groups to increase reimbursements. Since 2006, we have worked with SEIU members to improve the starting wage for in-home caregivers by 55%, and we're on track for more.

Just as important as gaining political power and better funding, we have found that SEIU shares our values. Together with SEIU, we have shifted the state's focus from nursing homes to home and community based



**services. And we have created a peer-to-peer mentoring program that supports consumers to train each other about how to be employers. SEIU leadership has joined and supports our Olmstead Coalition in Michigan.**

Our work at the Arc is about helping people with developmental disabilities and their families be part of their communities and more in control of their lives. 48% of Home Help providers who joined SEIU are family members of the people they support. Now this program is stronger, family members and other support staff gets better pay, and we have created a registry that has connected over 2,000 people with caregivers in their area. And, we have won grants to provide voluntary trainings to providers on safe lifting techniques, medication administration and special topics such as Alzheimer's care.

My experience in Michigan is proof that when people with disabilities, families, advocates and their community caregivers come together, we can accomplish much more than when we allow ourselves to be pitted against each other. I want you to encourage home based workers in Illinois to stand up for what they believe in and work with SEIU to improve and expand their program so more families who need these supports can get them.

Sincerely,



John Hoyle  
Executive Director  
The ARC Michigan



**AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION  
Personal Support Workers  
Illinois Home-Based Support Services Program**

**ASOCIACIÓN DE ARBITRAJE AMERICANA  
Trabajadores de apoyo personal  
Programa de servicios de apoyo basados en casa de Illinois**

# **OFFICIAL BALLOT BOLETA OFICIAL**

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## **VOTING INSTRUCTIONS**

- 1. THIS IS A SECRET BALLOT. Do not sign your name on this ballot.**
- 2. MARK an "X" or "✓" in ONE SQUARE ONLY on the blue ballot.**
- 3. Put your marked ballot in the yellow SECRET BALLOT envelope.**
- 4. Put the yellow SECRET BALLOT envelope in the Business Reply Envelope, which has your return address label on the back. DO NOT CHANGE OR DAMAGE YOUR INFORMATION ON THE BUSINESS REPLY ENVELOPE. ENVELOPES RECEIVED WITHOUT VOTER INFORMATION OR CONTAINING DAMAGED CONTROL NUMBERS WILL NOT BE COUNTED.**
- 5. Mail the Business Reply Envelope (NO POSTAGE NECESSARY) right away. Ballots must be received by the American Arbitration Association by 9:00 a.m. on Monday, October 19, 2009, in order to be counted.**

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## **INSTRUCCIONES PARA VOTAR**

- 1. Esta boleta es secreta. No firme su nombre en esta boleta.**
- 2. Marque una "X" o "✓" en sola una caja en la boleta azul.**
- 3. Ponga su boleta marcada en el sobre amarillo que dice BOLETA SECRETA.**
- 4. Ponga el sobre amarillo que dice BOLETA SECRETA adentro del sobre que dice "BUSINESS REPLY MAIL". Este sobre tiene una etiqueta con su propia dirección. NO CAMBIE NI DAÑE SU INFORMACIÓN EN EL SOBRE QUE DICE "BUSINESS REPLY MAIL". SOBRES RECIBIDOS SIN LA INFORMACIÓN DEL VOTANTE O CON NÚMEROS DEL CONTROL DAÑADOS NO SERÁN CONTADOS.**
- 5. Envíe este sobre que dice "BUSINESS REPLY MAIL" (no se necesita las estampillas postales) ahorita. Las boletas tienen que estar recibidas por la Asociación de Arbitraje Americana a las 9 de la mañana el Lunes, 19 de Octubre, 2009, para ser contado.**

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**If your ballot is damaged or misplaced, call 800-273-0726 or email  
[landim@adr.org](mailto:landim@adr.org) for a replacement ballot.**

**Si su boleta esta dañada o perdida, llame al 800-273-0726, o mande un correo electrónico al [landim@adr.org](mailto:landim@adr.org) para pedir una boleta de sustitución.**

**AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOCIATION**  
**Personal Support Workers**  
**Illinois Home-Based Support Services Program**

**ASOCIACIÓN DE ARBITRAJE AMERICANA**  
**Trabajadores de apoyo personal**  
**Programa de servicios de apoyo basados en casa de Illinois**

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
**BOLETA OFICIAL**

TO DETERMINE THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE  
PURPOSE OF COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATION FOR  
**State of Illinois Personal Support Workers**

PARA DETERMINAR LA REPRESENTACIÓN EXCLUSIVA PARA EL  
PROPÓSITO DE NEGOCIACIÓN COLECTIVA PARA  
**Trabajadores de apoyo personal del estado de Illinois**

**MARK ONLY ONE (1) BOX.**

**MARQUE SOLAMENTE UNA (1) CAJA.**




<b>AFSCME COUNCIL 31</b>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>SEIU LOCAL 73</b>  <input type="checkbox"/>	<b>NO REPRESENTATION</b>  <b>NO REPRESENTACIÓN</b>  <input type="checkbox"/>
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*Do not sign this ballot.*  
*No firme esta boleta.*

**For instructions, see reverse side.**  
**Para instrucciones, vea el otro lado.**



# Our time for a real voice is here!

<b>AFSCME COUNCIL 31</b> 	<b>SEIU LOCAL 73</b> 	<b>NO REPRESENTATION</b> 
<p>We will have the <b>strength</b> to make our voices heard by uniting with 10,000 other caregivers here in Illinois.</p> <p>We will have <b>our own union</b> and set our priorities.</p> <p>We will ensure the right of <b>families to choose</b> the best care for our loved ones.</p>	<p>The SEIU would force us into a local of over 20,000 janitors, toll booth workers and crossing guards.</p> <p>We would not be able to elect our own local leadership or set our own priorities.</p>	<p>By voting "No Representation," you are choosing to have no voice in the workplace. You will not be able to elect your own representatives to negotiate for you. You will not be able to set your own priorities or to elect your own leadership. You will not be able to have a say in the way you are treated at work.</p>

## VOTE AFSCME COUNCIL 31

Ballots will be mailed out on October 1.

The American Arbitration Association must receive your mail-in ballot by 9AM on October 19.