

## ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATION FORM

*Please include only one recommendation on each form.*

**This form must be returned via e-mail to [katie.mulford@iowa.gov](mailto:katie.mulford@iowa.gov) no later than 5:00 p.m.,  
Wednesday Nov. 21, 2007**

**Name** Audrey Reid

**Phone** 319-398-3647

**Agency, if any** Aging Services inc.

**E-mail** AReid@abbe.org

**Address** 800 1st ST. NW Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52405

**Each recommendation must fit into one of the following categories. Please check the appropriate box:**

**Education and training**

**Services and housing**

**Funding and reimbursement**

**Wellness and disease management**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Address the needs of informal caregivers who require short term 24 hour institutional respite assistance.

**IN 250 WORDS OR LESS, PLEASE INCLUDE COMMENTS, JUSTIFICATION, RESOURCES OR OTHER INFORMATION TO HELP THE TASK FORCE UNDERSTAND THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUR RECOMMENDATION.**

Many informal caregivers need a break and struggle with finding a solution when they need short term 24 hour care for their loved one. Many are concerned and fearful bringing someone into their home to care for their loved one. Many seek an institutional setting to meet this need and they run into many barriers.

Many Nursing Homes cannot promise a room in advance as they cannot promise room availability. Lengthy admission processes becomes a barrier, and many because of the time and efforts to admit someone will not offer short term respite. Because the difficulty in receiving this service the caregiver is unable to find short term respite. Ultimately, the caregiver does not receive the assistance they are looking for and the end result is caregivers physically and mentally exhausted to a point that they can no longer care for their loved one.

As a state we must look for options to assist the caregiver with this need. Is there possibilities of revising the Nursing Home admission criteria for short term stays to make it feasible for the Nursing Homes to offer this service?