

Health Care Consumer

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44 E. Main Street, Suite 208
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 352-6533
cchcc@healthcareconsumers.org
www.healthcareconsumers.org

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Changes in CCHCC Staff – by Megan McClaire

CCHCC staff will be changing this summer. Katie Coombes has served as the Medicare 100/Plus Program Coordinator and lead organizer for the Medicare Task Force since April of 2005. She will be leaving Champaign to move to Chicago where her husband will be attending law school in early August. Katie is sad to leave the community, but will continue to work for social justice issues as an organizer. "I have accepted the position of Organizing Director for Citizen Action/Illinois which is exciting because I will continue to work on Medicare Part D and will see a lot of my CCHCC friends at the Annual Convention," Katie said. She continued, "Working with CCHCC members has been the most fun and inspiring experience of my life. I won't be a stranger!"

While CCHCC staff, members, and Board are sad to see Katie leave, we are all excited to have Anne Gargano join staff full time as Katie's replacement. Anne has worked as a part-time Federal Work Study and intern at CCHCC this past year on a wide range of organizing, fundraising, and program tasks. She recently graduated from the University of Illinois and is excited about the new Health Care Access Task Force and working with the Medicare Task Force. She said, "When I heard about the opening I couldn't wait to apply and have the chance to work with such a great, dedicated, and award winning group of people."

"CCHCC staff are essential for working with our members and volunteers, who are the key to CCHCC's successes," Claudia Lennhoff, CCHCC's Executive Director said. She further stated, "I am confident that the members Katie has worked with will continue to work for a real Medicare prescription drug benefit and support Anne in this transition." We thank Katie for her excellent work and dedication, and we wish her well in her new position with Citizen Action/Illinois, and we enthusiastically welcome Anne, who we know will be a great organizer and program coordinator!



Anne - L
Katie - R



Champaign County Health Care Consumers is a proud member of Community Shares of Illinois.