

**2008 Policy Open House: Session Summary**  
**Long Term Care: Imagining Aging – and the Services We’ll Need**  
**5:00 – 6:15 p.m.**

**Facilitators:** Stacy Becker, Sean Kershaw

**Participants:** About thirty interested citizens representing many perspectives regarding long term care including users, administrators and advisors. A wide range of ages from thirty to seventy five.

**Purpose:** To pilot-test an approach to identifying important issues regarding long term care, to be used as a basis for developing a one-half day workshop to be sponsored by Ecumen in late Spring 2008.

**Approach:** Each participant took a few minutes to complete a one page “Imagining Long Term Care” survey. The survey respondent was to envision themselves as an eighty seven year old living alone with need for some services in order to maintain a productive life. In addition participants were asked to choose a word which described how they felt about the prospect of such a scenario. Responses ranged from enthusiastic to fearful.

**Feedback:** Participants provided the following responses.

- Constructive
- New Insights
- Worthwhile use of time
- Willingness to be involved in the future
- Public officials would benefit from similar experience
- Future events should focus on solutions

*Summary by Paul Taylor*