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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**Report on Consumer-Directed Care Touts Model Strategy.**  
Arizona is ahead of the national curve.

PHOENIX, AZ— The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) touts Arizona's Long Term Care System (ALTCS) program as a model strategy for system support of community-based care.

According to *You Call The Tune: The Promise and Challenge of Consumer-Directed Care*, a report released today by St. Luke's Health Initiatives (SLHI), many states and government agencies are working on consumer-directed options for long term care.

"In Arizona, it has been possible to realize the spirit and values of personal choice by incorporating components of consumer direction," said Jill Rissi, SLHI Associate Director of Research and Policy. "A basic tenet of the ALTCS program is consumer involvement."

The full report distinguishes Consumer-Directed Care, delivers a capsule history, and provides a detailed analysis of factors that come to prominence in evolving the current system of care. Challenges, issues and suggestions for both policy and practice are detailed.

The complete *You Call The Tune* report is available from SLHI or can be accessed on the web at [http://www.slhi.org/publications/policy\\_primers/index.shtml](http://www.slhi.org/publications/policy_primers/index.shtml)

*About SLHI*

*Established in 1995, St. Luke's Health Initiatives (SLHI) is a Phoenix-based public foundation focused on Arizona health policy and strength-based community development. For additional information, please visit [www.slhi.org](http://www.slhi.org).*

Contact

Jon Ford, Associate Director, Communications

Phone: 602-385-6508

Email: [jon.ford@slhi.org](mailto:jon.ford@slhi.org)