

23

Providing services in a full range of locations that encompasses institutional care, home care/foster home care, and community-based services

- 1 WHEREAS most older Americans prefer to age in familiar surroundings;
- 2 WHEREAS institutional care is costly for both the private and public sectors, and is not an appropriate choice for all aging and disabled Americans;
- 3 WHEREAS the informal support and care which families provide to aging members often creates great financial and emotional stress;
- 4 WHEREAS the Older Americans Act (OAA) provides access to and coordination of home and community-based services which support maximum independence of older adults;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the 1995 White House Conference on Aging to support policies that:

- 5 Continue to provide sufficient funding to ensure quality institutional, home and community-based services, where appropriate, after a comprehensive assessment;
- 6 Strengthen families abilities to care for their aging and/or disabled family members at home;
- 7 Assist older persons and their families in choosing creative alternatives to institutional care, including, but not limited to, programs such as geriatric foster family care, adult day care, congregate housing, assisted living, respite care, and group homes;
- 8 Ensure that community-based services, such as nutrition/meals programs, take medical, social, and cultural needs into consideration, including, but not limited to, diabetic, low-fat, low-salt diets, and kosher meals;